Kenji Sonishi's

Neko Ramen™

猫ラーメン

Hey! Order Up!

TOKYOPOP®

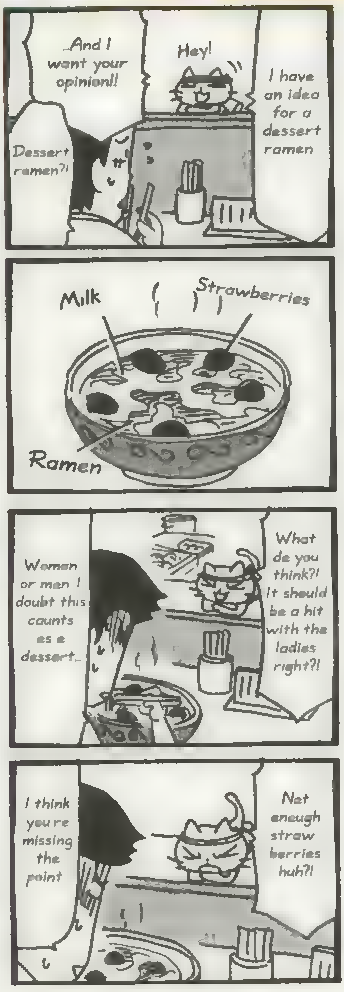
Kenji Sonishi's

Neko Ramen

猫ラーメン

A New Taste

A cat makes the ramen.


...And I want your opinion!!
Hey!
I have an idea for a dessert ramen
Dessert ramen?!
Milk
Strawberries
Ramen
Women or men I doubt this counts as a dessert...
What do you think?! It should be a hit with the ladies right?!
I think you're missing the point
Not enough strawberries huh?!

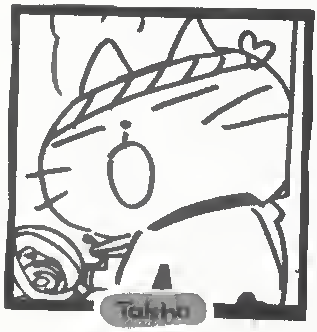
Neko Ramen
Taisho
大将

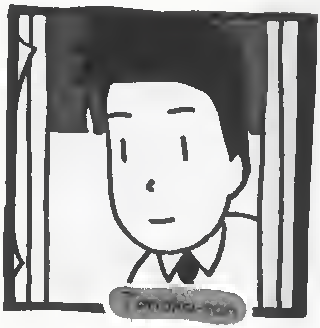
Kenji Sonishi's

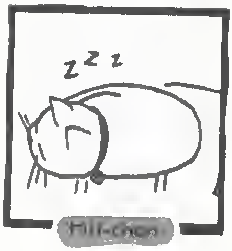
Neko Ramen

猫ラーメン

Introducing







Ramen like you've never experienced before!

Hey! Order Up!

猫

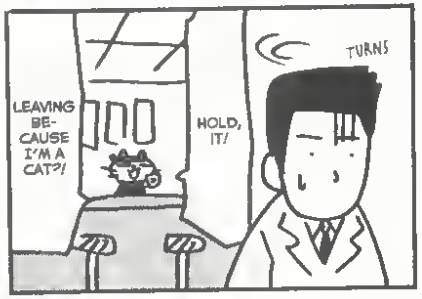
NEKO RAMEN NEKO RAMEN NEKO RAMEN NEKO RAMEN NEKO RAMEN NEKO RAMEN NEKO RAMEN NEKO RAMEN NEKO

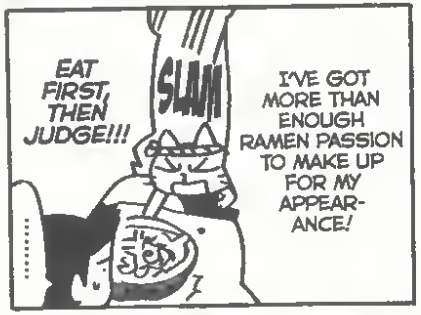
猫ラーメン

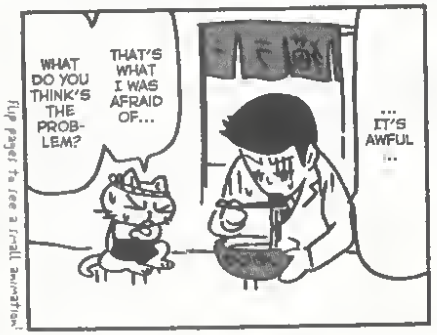
そにしけんじ

1

Passion







Taisho's Morning Routine

猫ラーメン

Chapter 1

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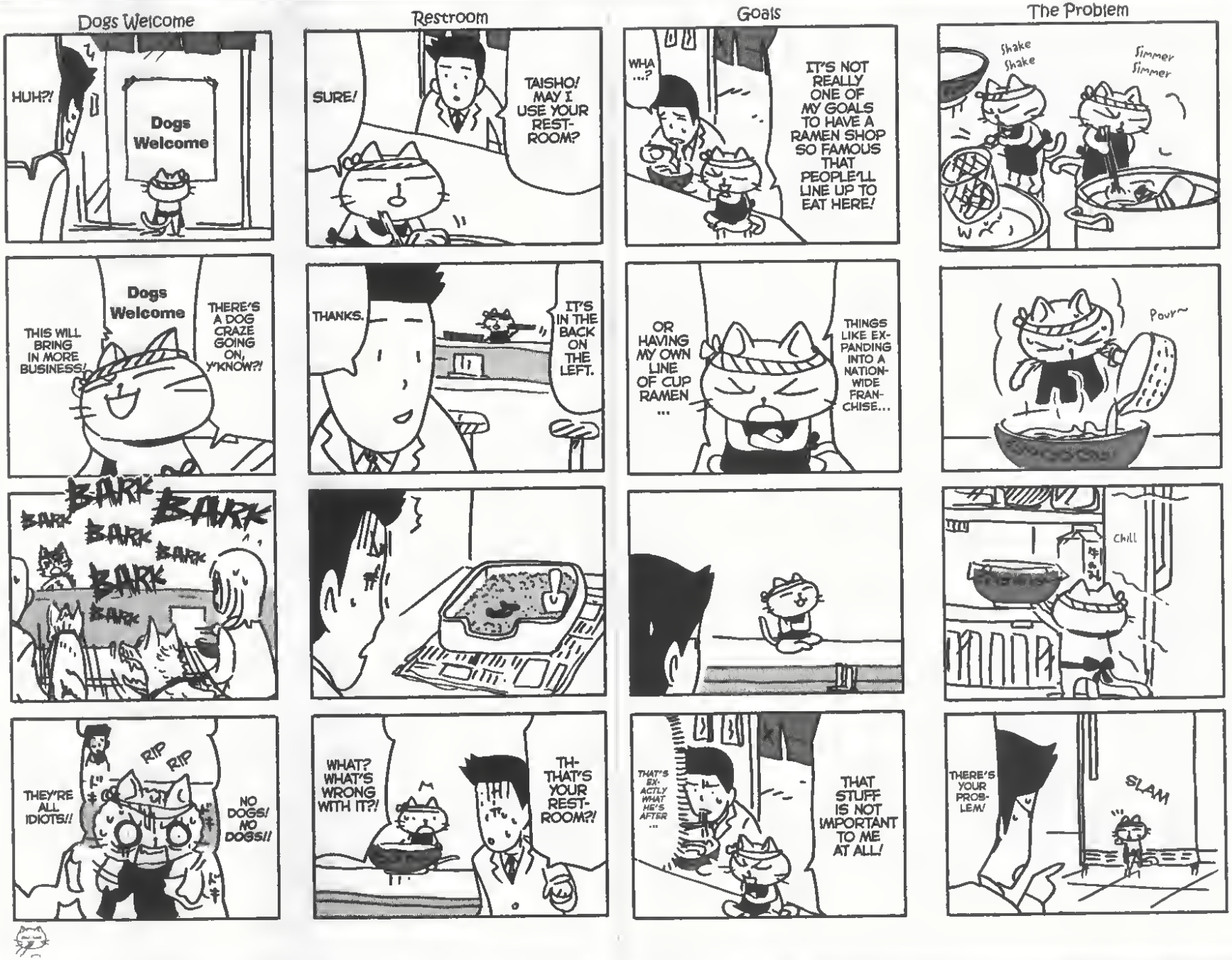
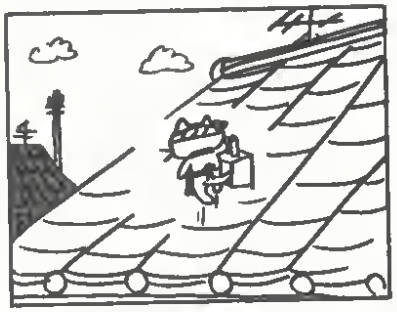
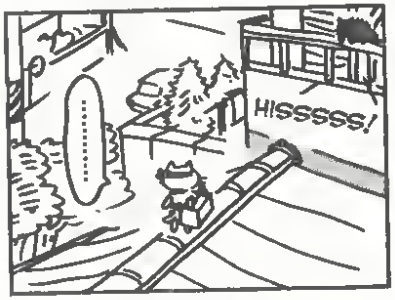
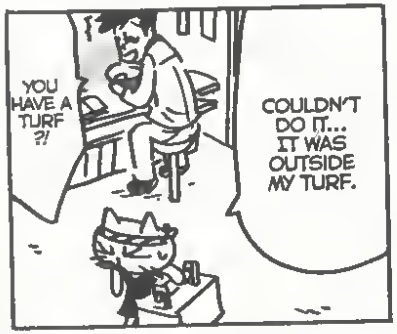

Dogs Welcome
HUH?!
Dogs Welcome
Restroom
SURE!
TAISHO! MAY I USE YOUR REST-ROOM?
Goals
WHA ...?
IT'S NOT REALLY ONE OF MY GOALS TO HAVE A RAMEN SHOP SO FAMOUS THAT PEOPLE'LL LINE UP TO EAT HERE!
The Problem
Shake Shake
Simmer Simmer
Dogs Welcome
THIS WILL BRING IN MORE BUSINESS!
THERE'S A DOG CRAZE GOING ON, Y'KNOW?!
THANKS.
IT'S IN THE BACK ON THE LEFT.
OR HAVING MY OWN LINE OF CUP RAMEN ...
THINGS LIKE EX-PANDING INTO A NATION-WIDE FRAN-CHISE...
Pour~
BARK
BARK
BARK
BARK
BARK
BARK
Chill
RIP
RIP
THEY'RE ALL IDIOTS!!
NO DOGS! NO DOGS!!
WHAT? WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?!
TH-THAT'S YOUR REST-ROOM?!
THAT'S EX-ACTLY WHAT HE'S AFTER ...
THAT STUFF IS NOT IMPORTANT TO ME AT ALL!
THERE'S YOUR PROB-LEM!
SLAM

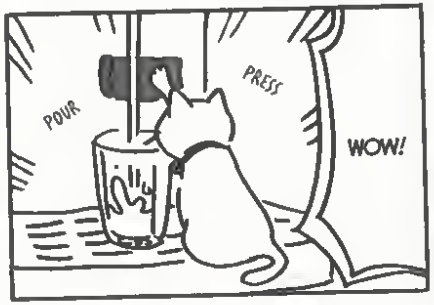
Delivery

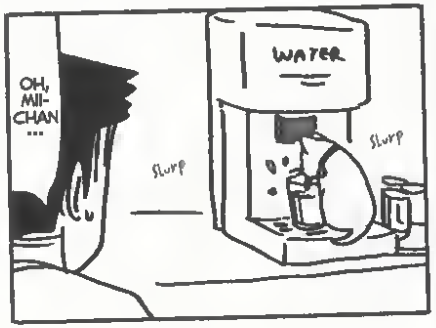




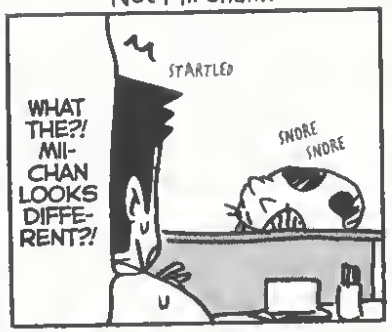


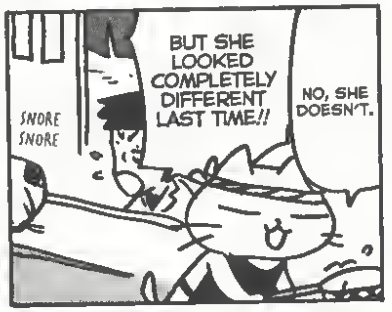
Serving Water

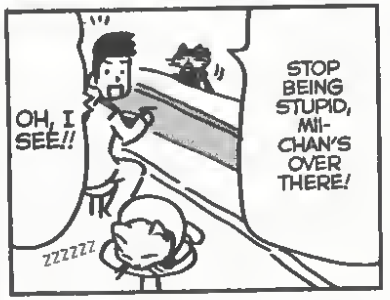




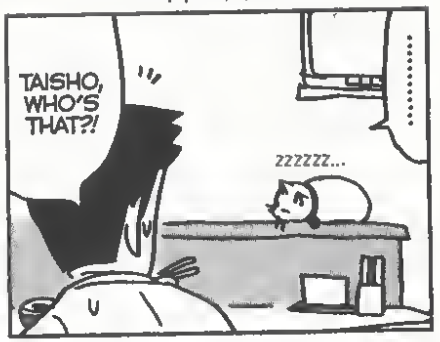
Not Mii-chan?!

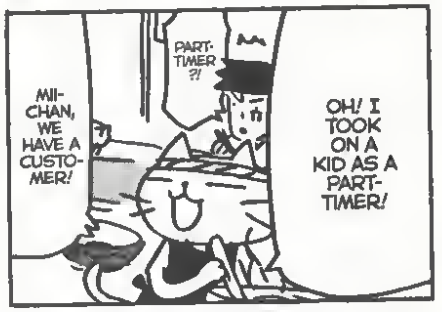


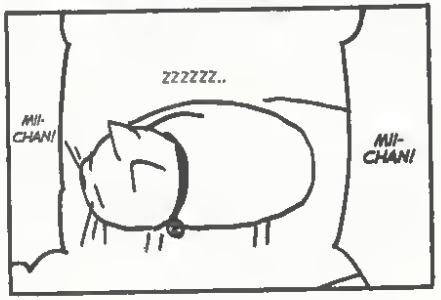


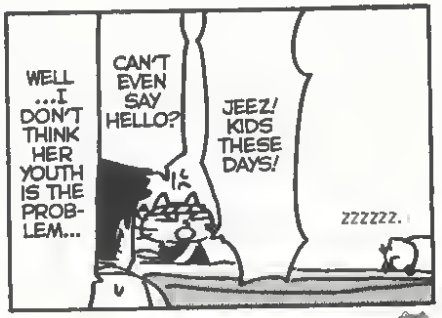


Mii-chan

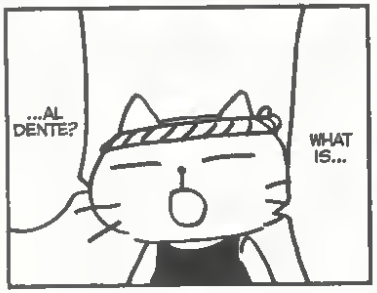


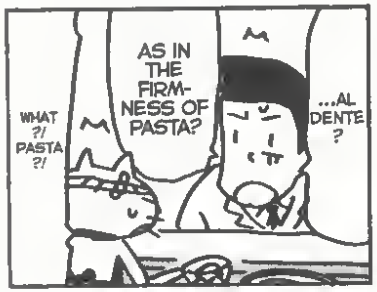




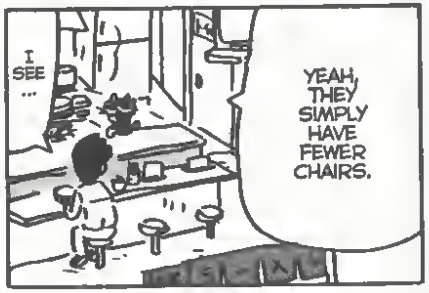


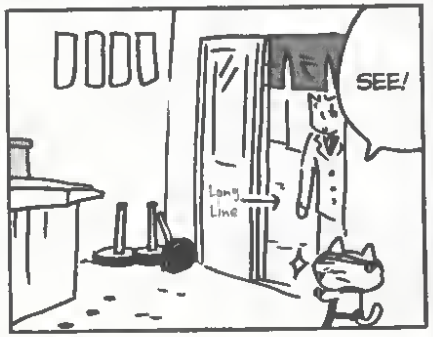
Studies



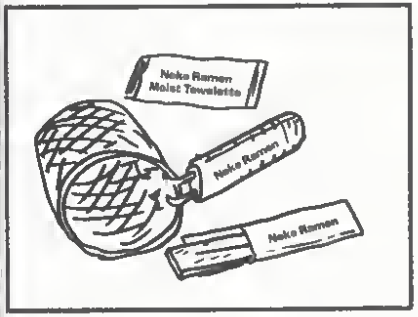


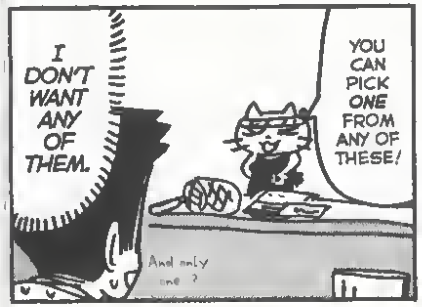
Long Lines



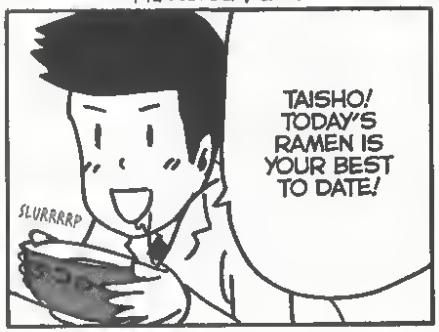


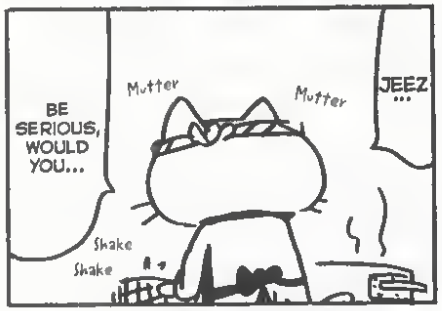
Frequent Customer Card

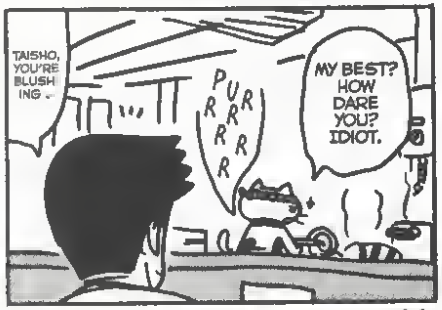




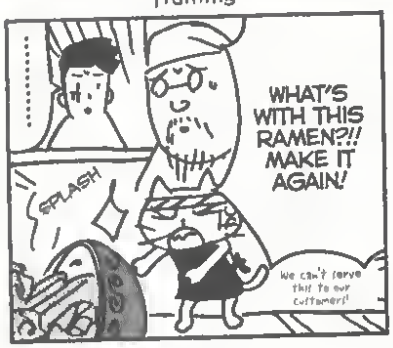
Flattered Purrs

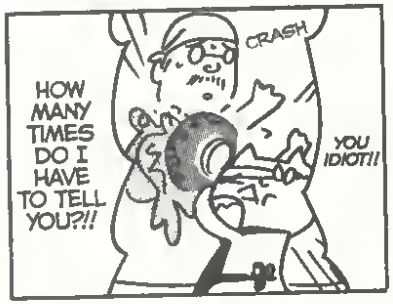




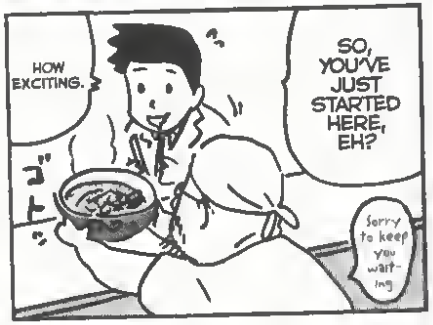


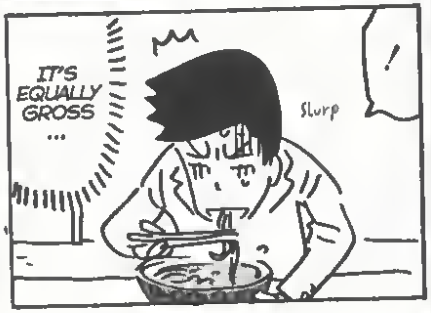
Training



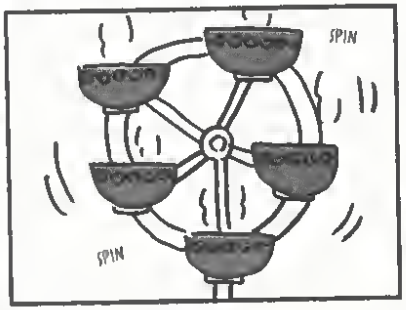


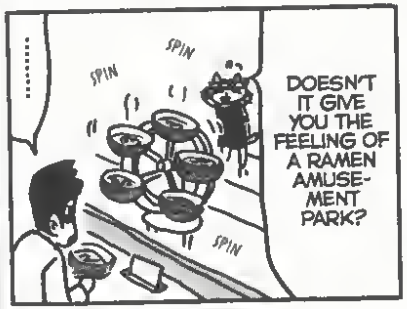
The New Guy

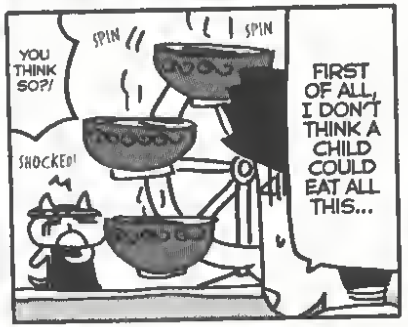




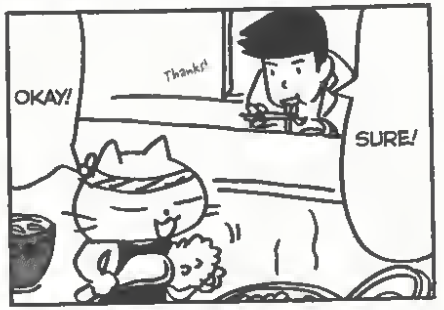
Kid's Ramen

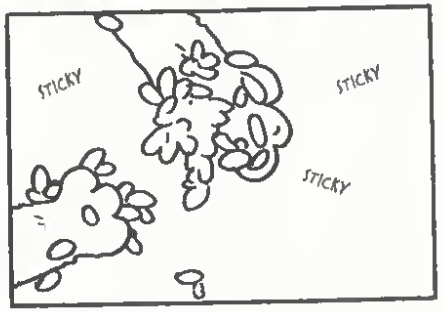




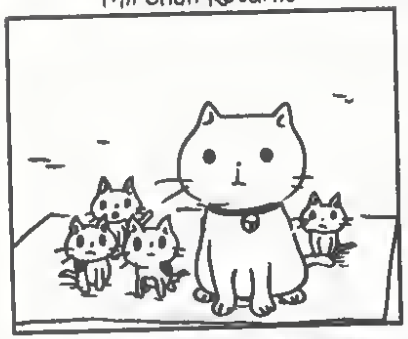


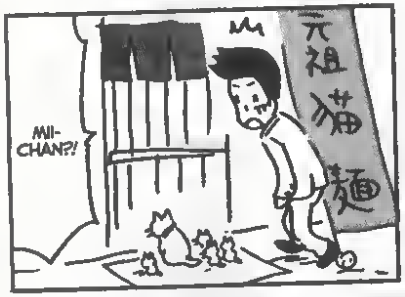
Free Rice Balls

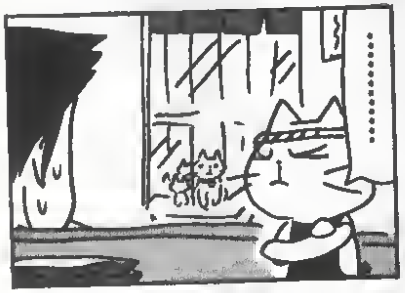




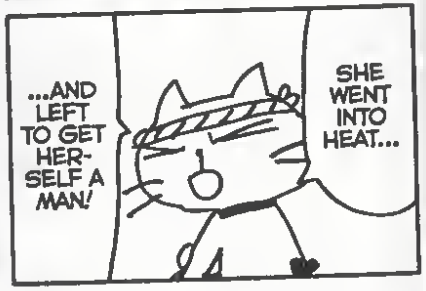
Mii-chan Returns



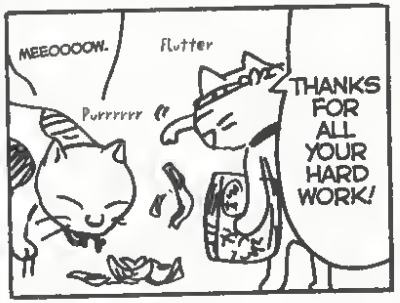


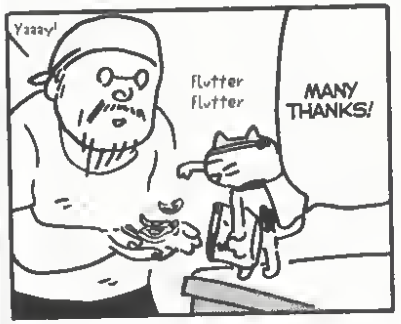


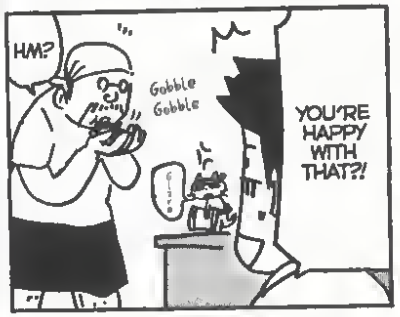
Where's Mii-chan?



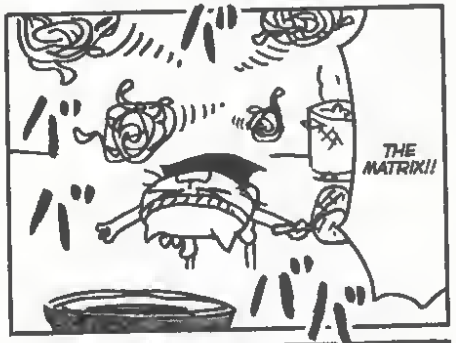
Pay Day







Super Moves



猫ラーメン

Chapter 2

Ultimate

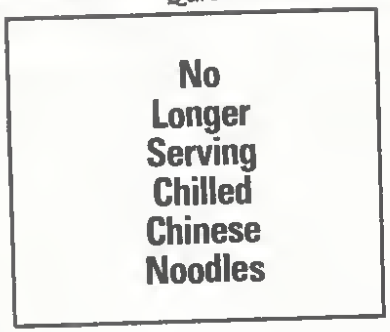
RIP
POUR~
TIC TIC TIC
HERE! SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
THIS IS INSTANT RAMEN!!
SLAM
AND YOU'RE CHARING ME ¥8?!
AFTER ALL MY RESEARCH, I FINALLY ACCEPTED THAT NOTHING BEATS INSTANT RAMEN!!

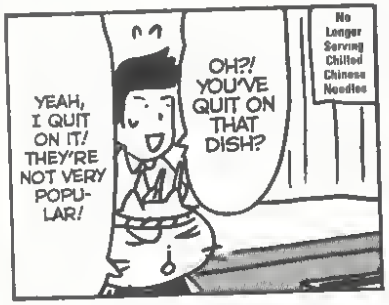
The Second Location

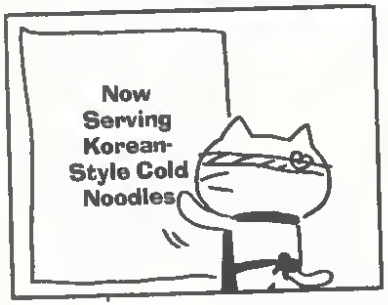
He Quit?

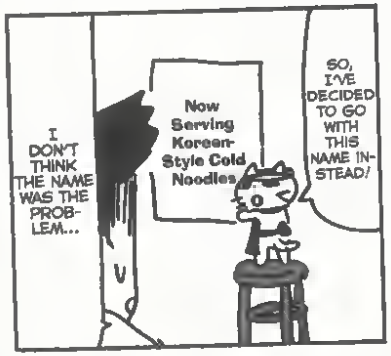
Forgive me!
CRASH
YOU IDIOT! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?!
I'm sorry!
SPLASH
SHOW RAMEN PROPER RESPECT!!
WHAT?!
OH, HIM?!
SO THAT GUY FINALLY QUIT, HUH?
SINCE WHEN DO YOU HAVE A SECOND LOCATION?!
I SENT HIM TO WORK AT OUR SECOND LOCATION.

Quit

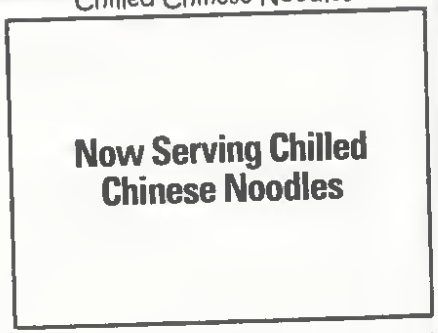


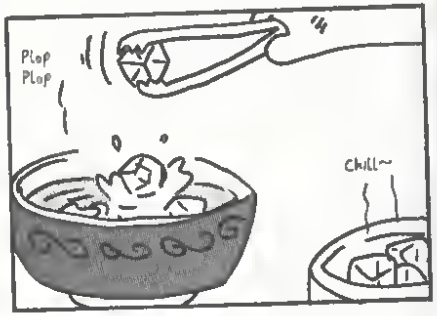


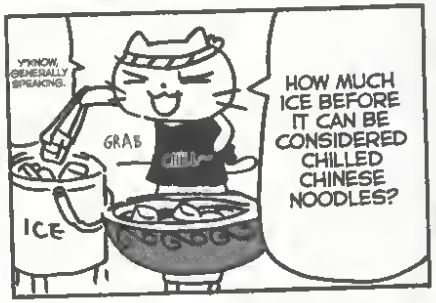


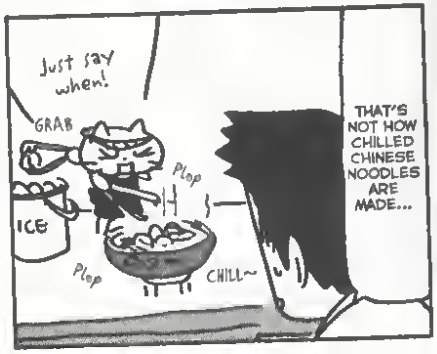


Chilled Chinese Noodles

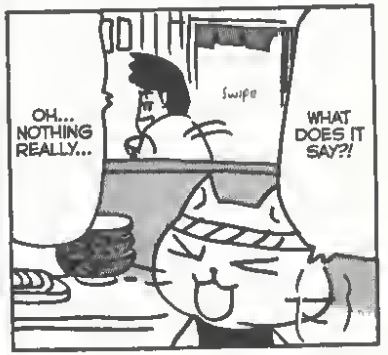




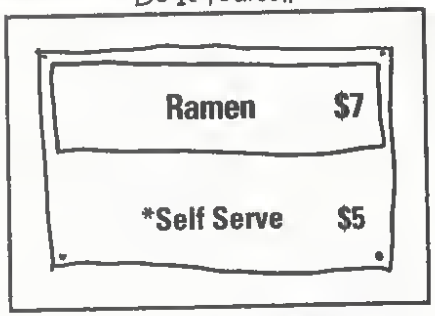


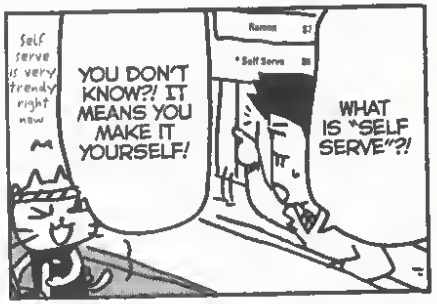


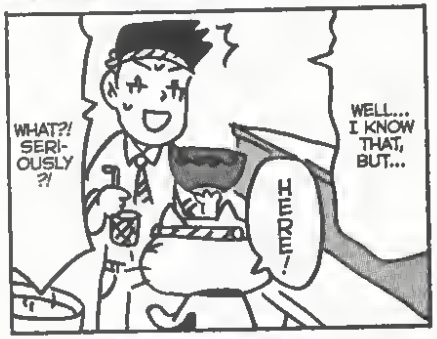
Message



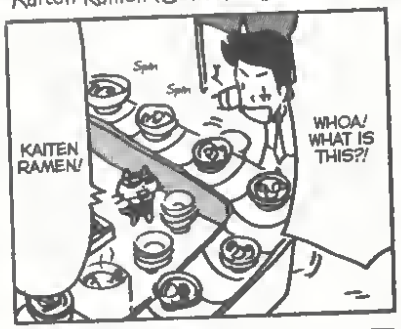
Do It Yourself

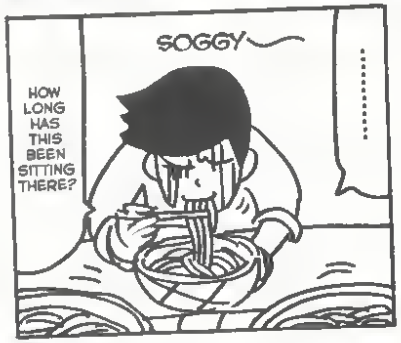




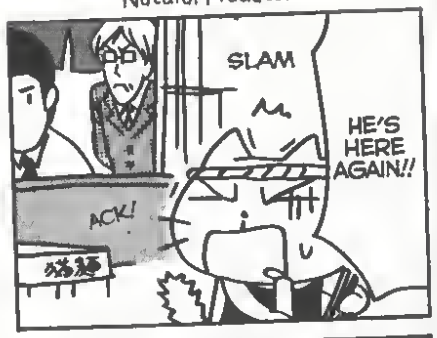


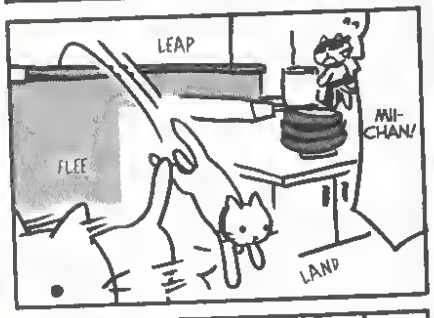
Kaiten Ramen (Conveyer-Belt Ramen)



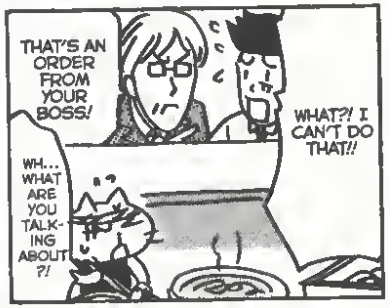


Natural Predator

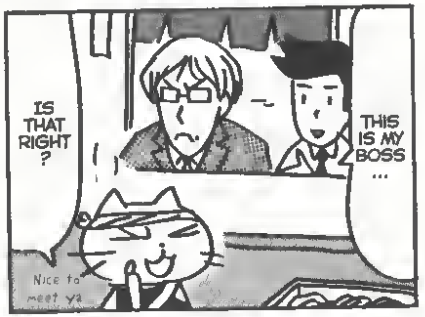


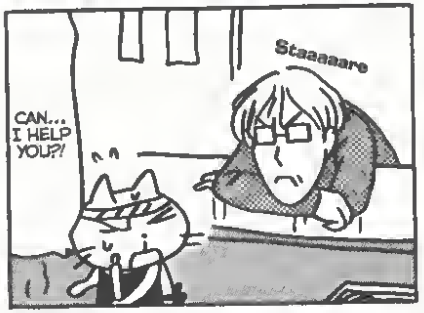


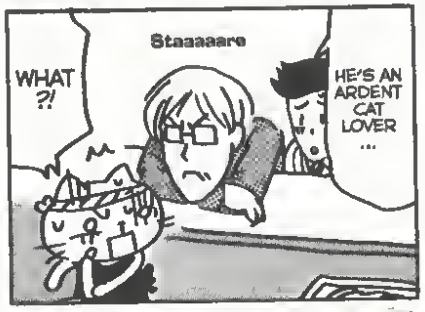
Assessment



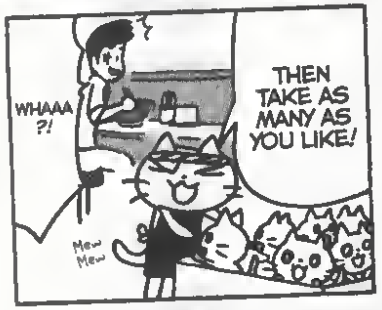
Boss

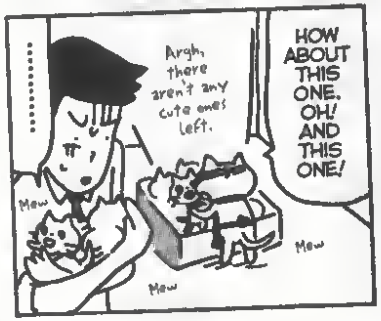




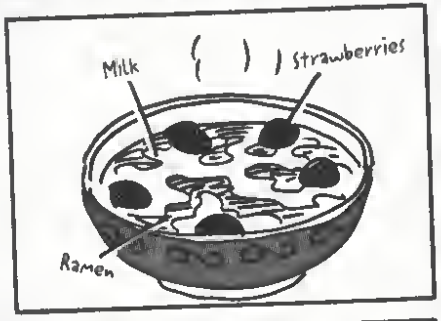


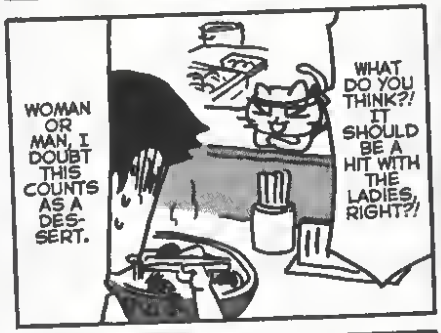
Animal Rescue

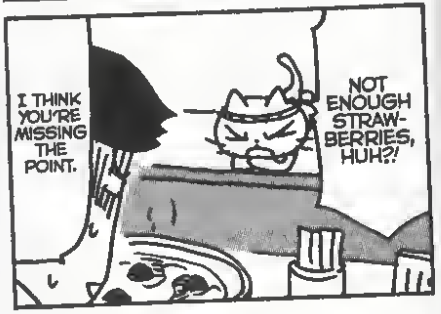




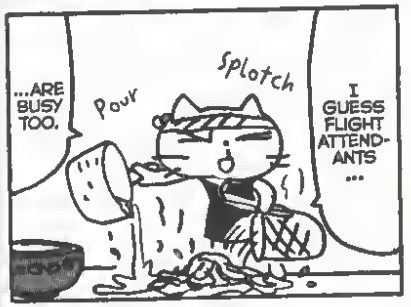
New Taste

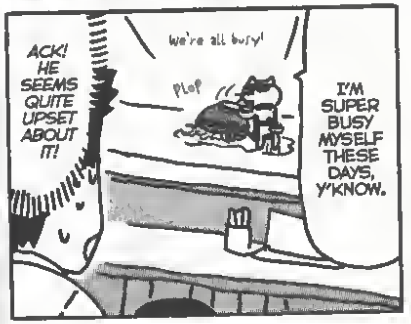




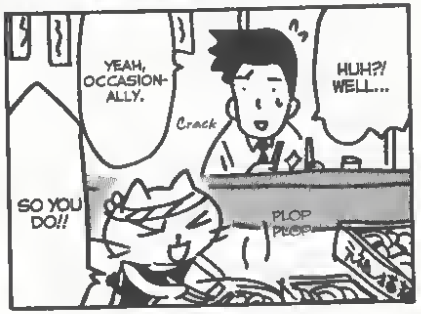


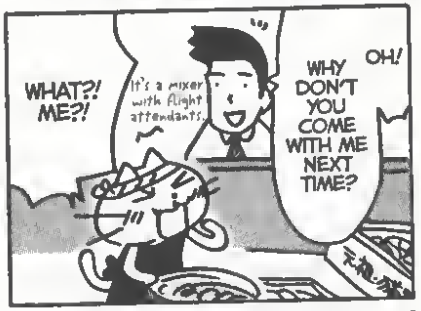
Cancelled

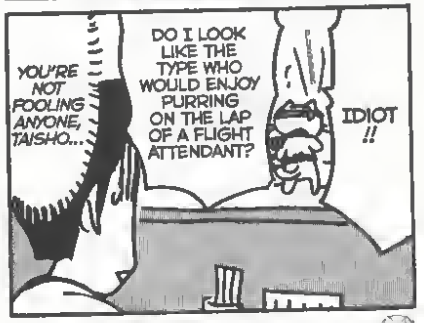




Mixers







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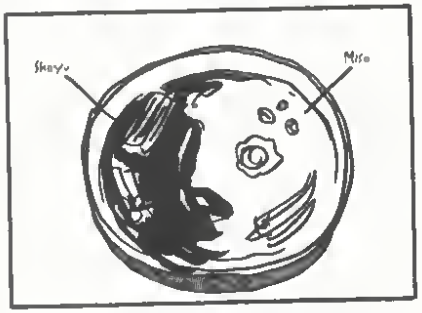
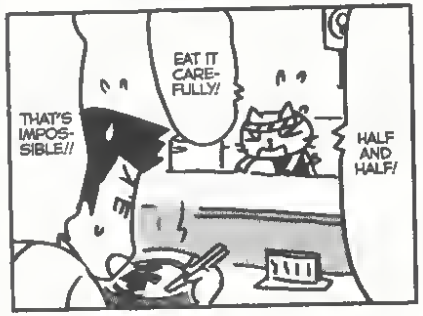
Chapter 3

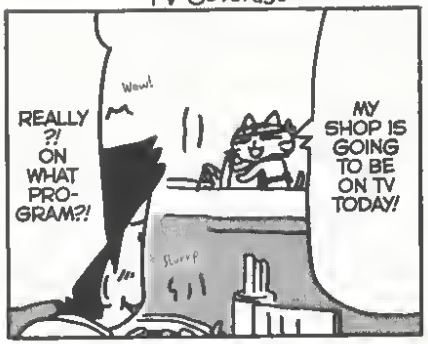
Solution

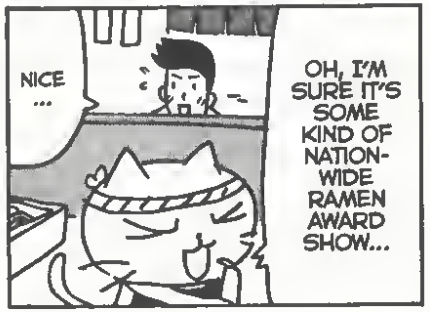




Unusual

TV Coverage

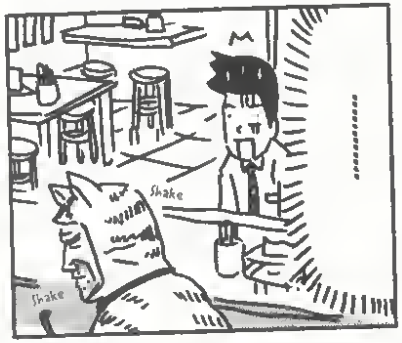




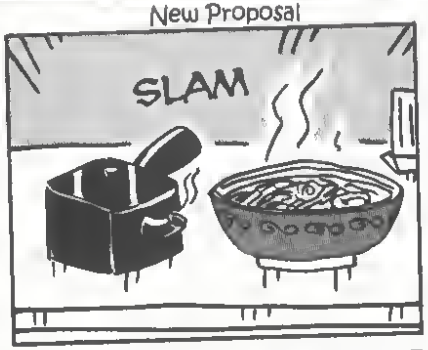
The World's Most Amazing Animals

Unusual Cats and Dogs

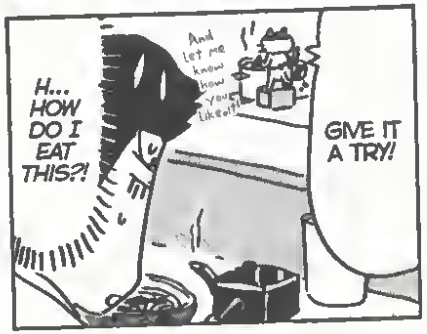
Rival Shop



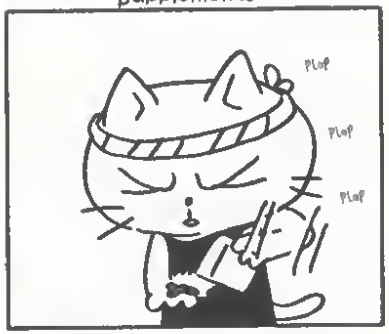
New Proposal

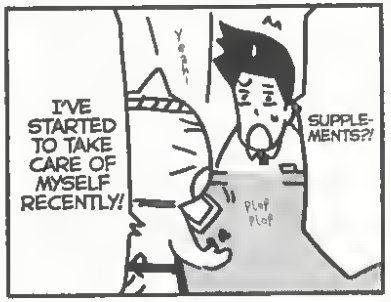


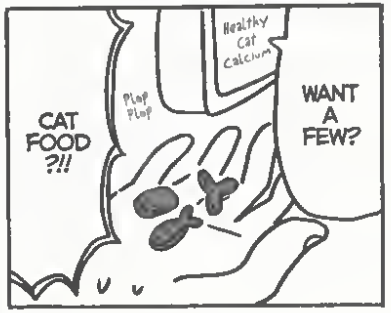
I GOT THE IDEA FROM SOBAYU, THE WATER LEFT-OVER FROM SOBU NOO-DLES!
WATER THAT'S LEFTOVER FROM BOILING RAMEN NOODLES!
EX-CUSE ME?



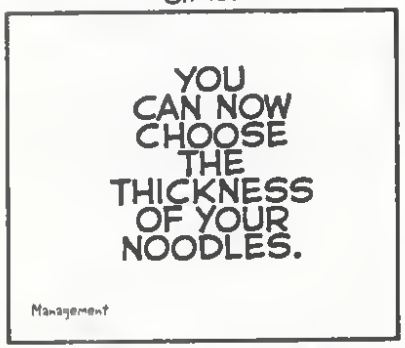
Supplements

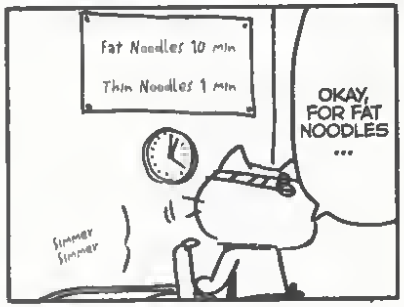


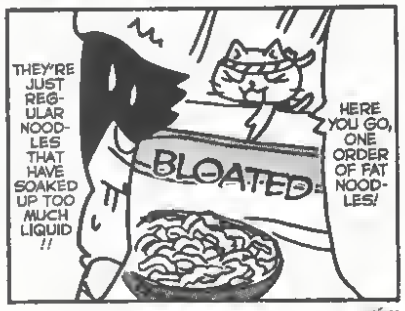




Choice





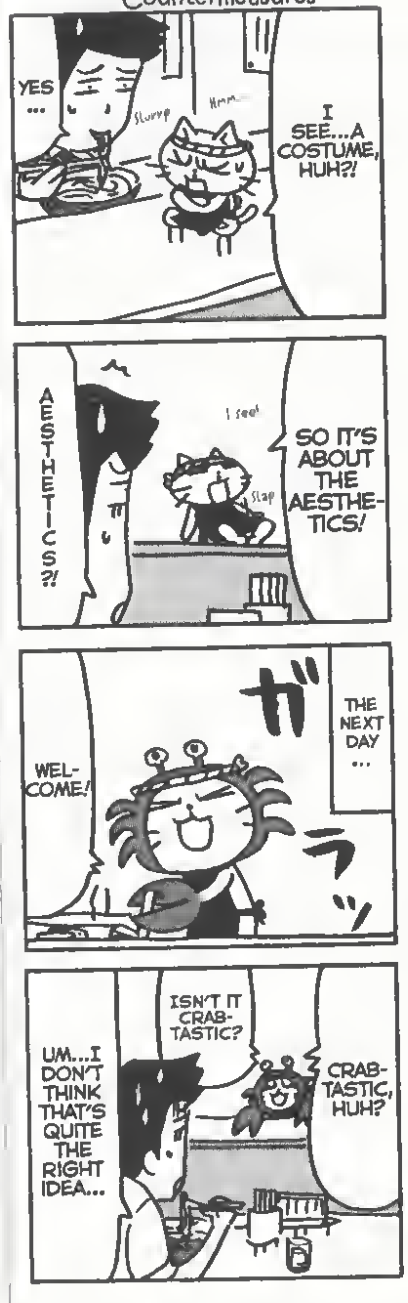


Runs in the Family

W... WHAT ...?
Staaare
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
IDIOT !!
I'M JUST THINKING... YOU'RE ACTUALLY FAIRLY CUTE LOOKING, TAISHO ...
DON'T LUMP ME TOGETHER WITH MY OLD MAN!
Shake Shake
STOP IT!
NO.. I'M KINDA SERIOUS...
OLD MAN?!
THAT'S YOUR FATHER ?!
HE'S A CAT MODEL ...

Afternoon Nap

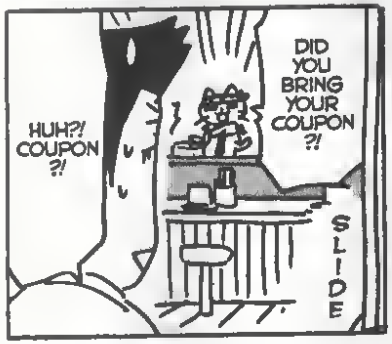
Countermeasures



What Style?

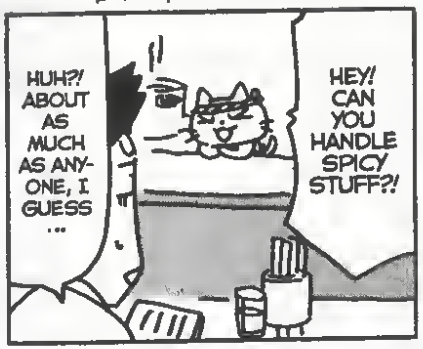
HOW... YOU ASK...?
SO, HOW'D IT GO AT THE OTHER SHOP?!
I KNEW IT! JUST AS I THOUGHT!
Impressive
WELL, IT MIGHT BE TRUE THAT THEY'RE RIPPING YOU OFF...
STYLE ?!
Does he mean what the costume looked like...?
SO, WHAT STYLE WAS IT?!
THIS SHOP IS ASAHIKAWA SHOYU-STYLE?!
Has he gone that far?!
DOES HE SERVE ASAHIKAWA SHOYU-STYLE RAMEN TOO?!

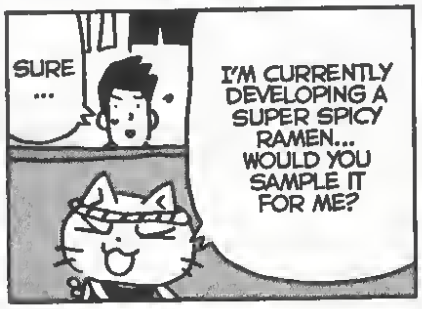
Coupon

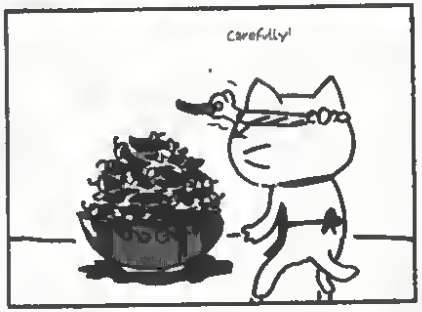


NO... I COMPLETELY MISSED IT..
You're not very observant, are you?
THERE WAS A COUPON FOR OUR SHOP IN THIS WEEK'S ADS. DIDN'T YOU SEE IT?

Super Spicy Ramen

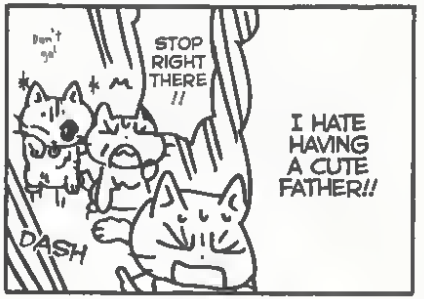


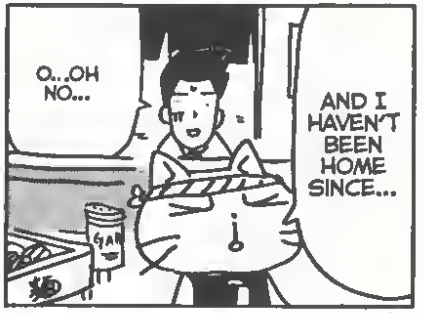




Copycat Defense

Father





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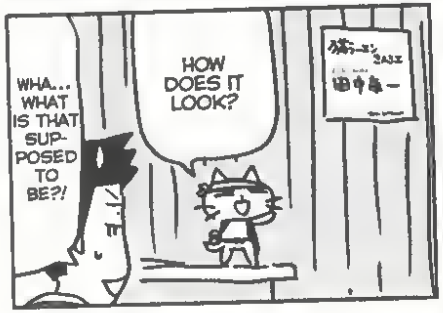
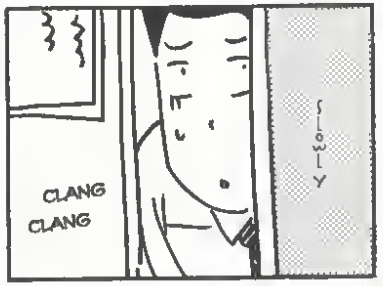
Chapter 4

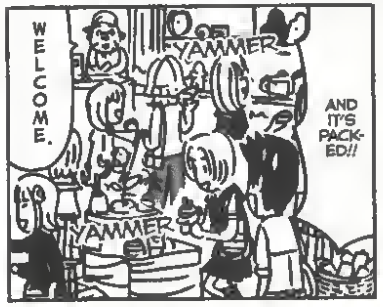
Full Name

TANAKA USES "PADDY FIELD" AND "CENTER" KANJI CHARACTERS. KOICHI IS THE "HEALTH" AND "NUMBER ONE" CHARACTER.
Well...
Scribble Scribble
HOW DO YOU SPELL IT?

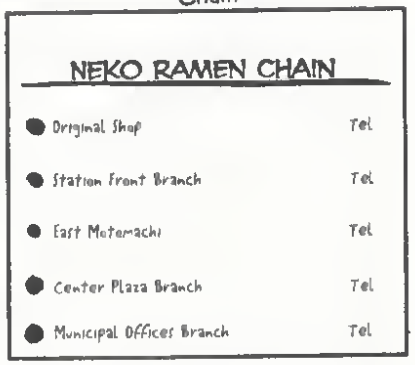


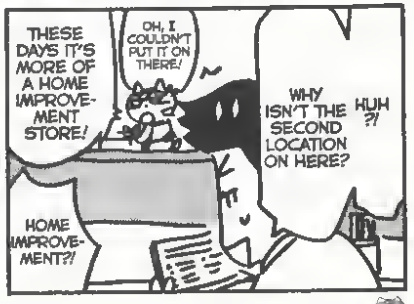
The Second Location



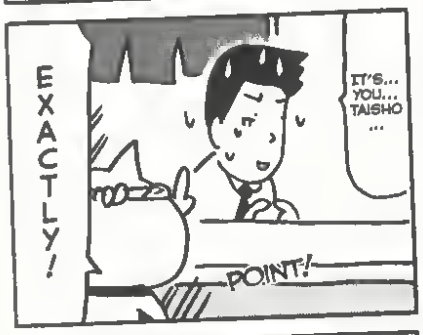


Chain

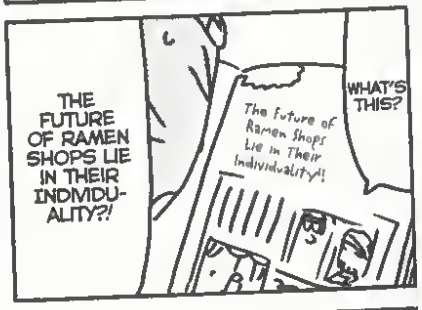



THESE DAYS IT'S MORE OF A HOME IMPROVEMENT STORE!
OH, I COULDN'T PUT IT ON THERE!
WHY ISN'T THE SECOND LOCATION ON HERE?
HUH ?!
HOME IMPROVEMENT?!

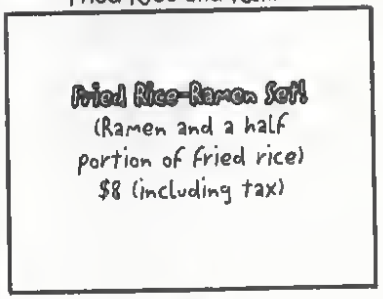
Individuality

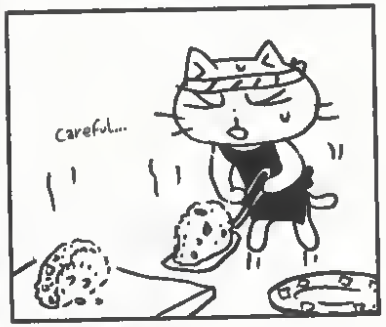


Article

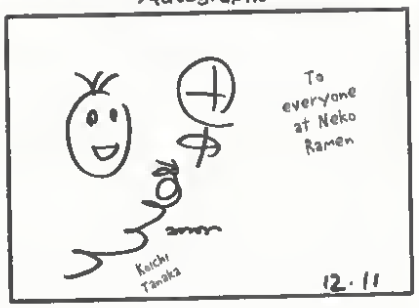


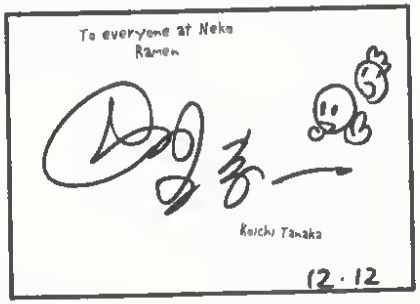
Fried Rice and Ramen

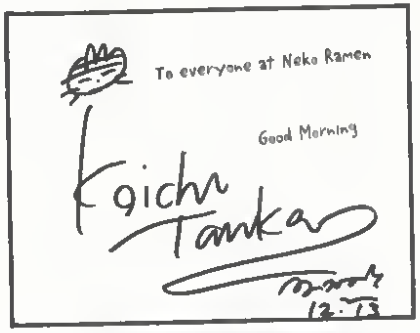




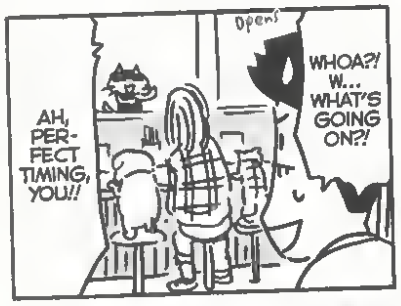
Autographs

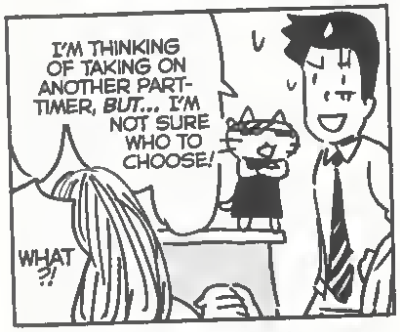


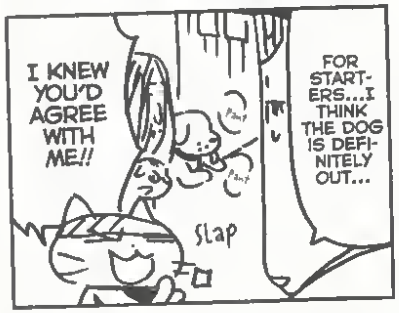




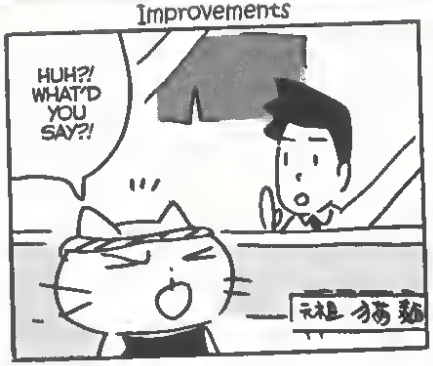
The Process of Elimination

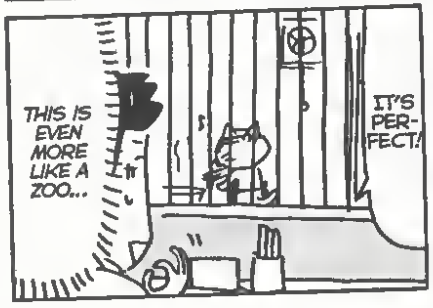




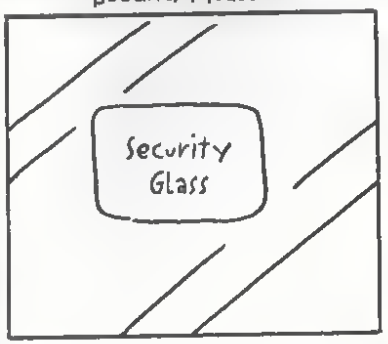


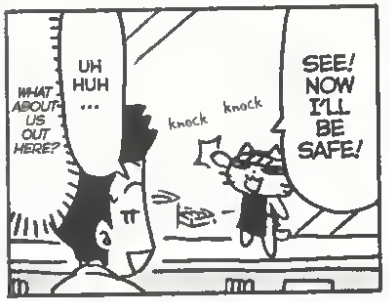
Improvements

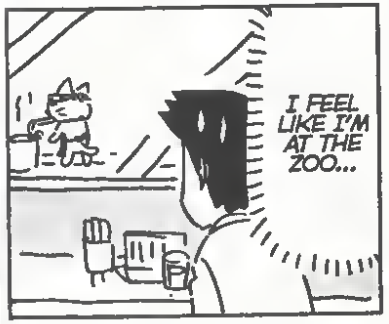




Security Measures







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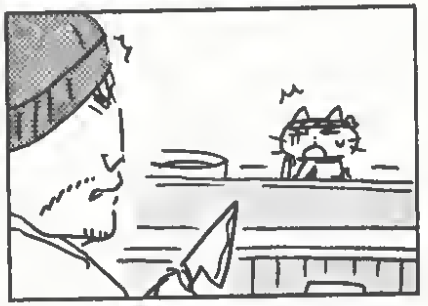
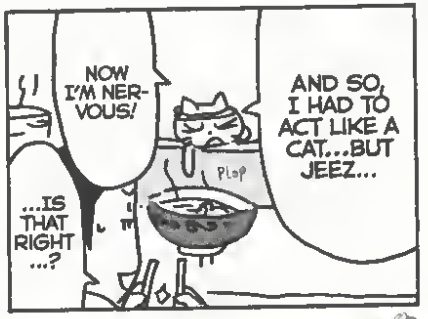
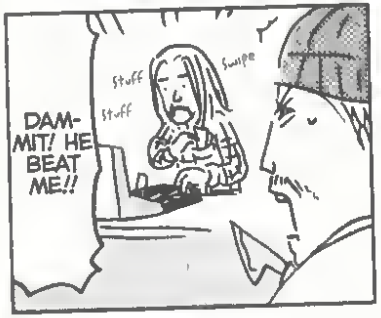
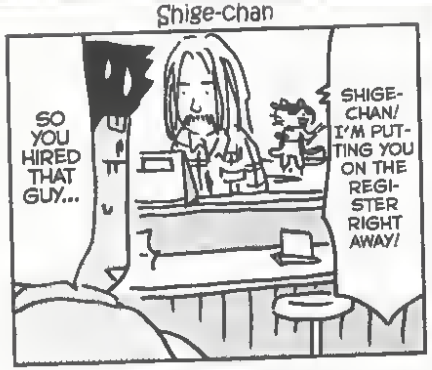


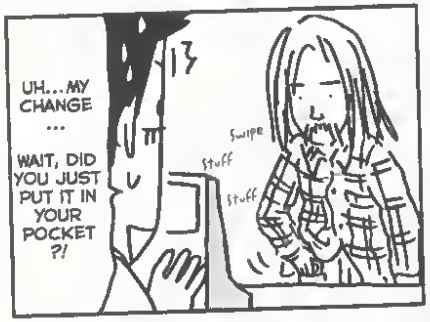


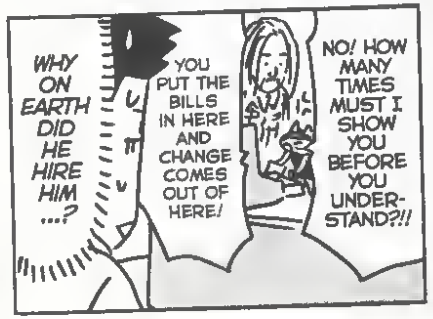
Quick Thinking



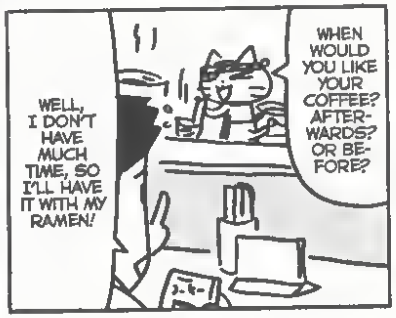
Shige-chan

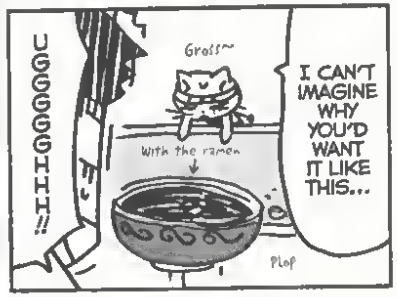




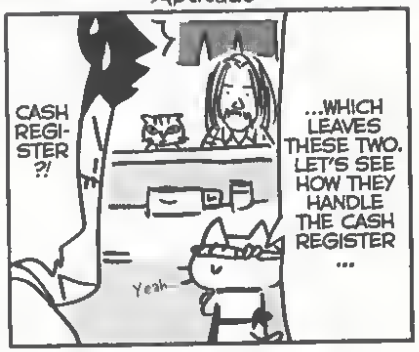

WHY ON EARTH DID HE HIRE HIM...?
YOU PUT THE BILLS IN HERE AND CHANGE COMES OUT OF HERE!
NO! HOW MANY TIMES MUST I SHOW YOU BEFORE YOU UNDER-STAND?!!

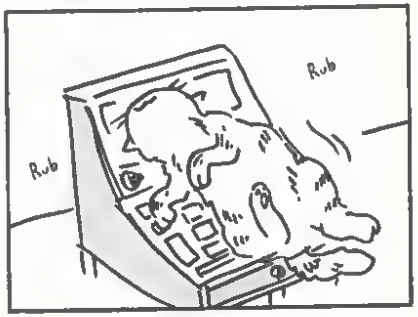
Coffee

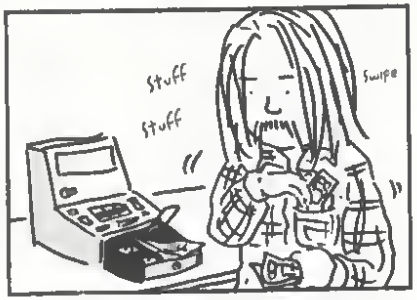


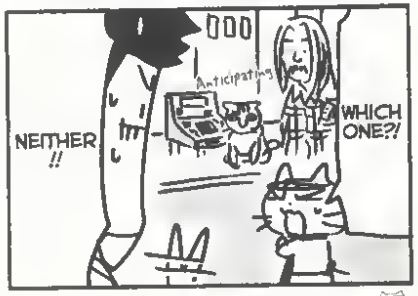


Aptitude







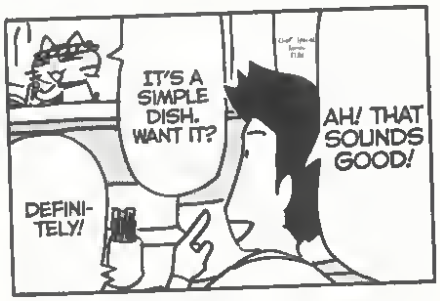


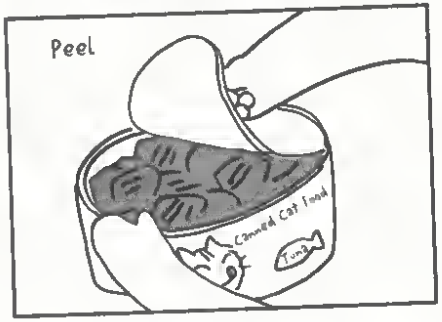
猫ラーメン

Chapter 5

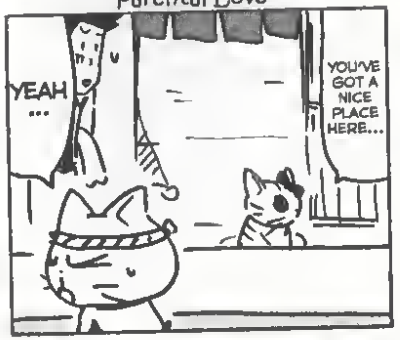
Special Menu

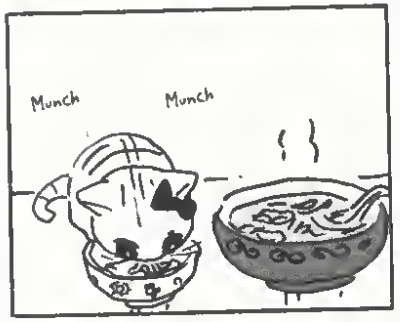
Chef's Special
Ramen
$7.80

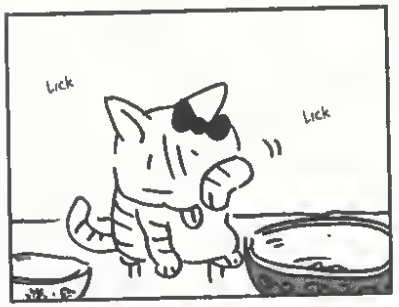




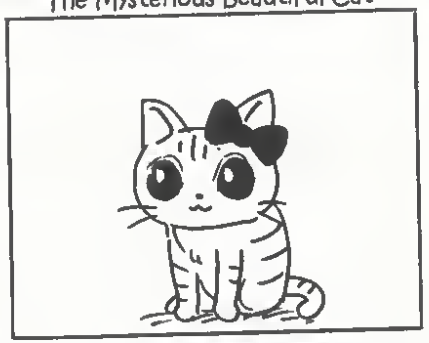
Parental Love

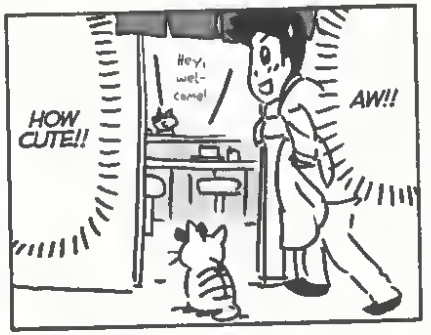


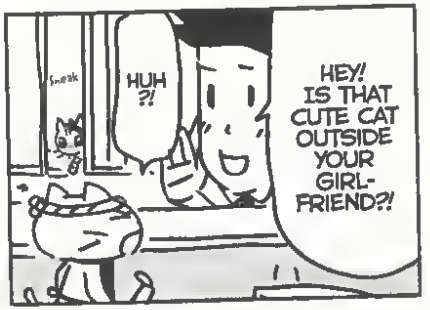


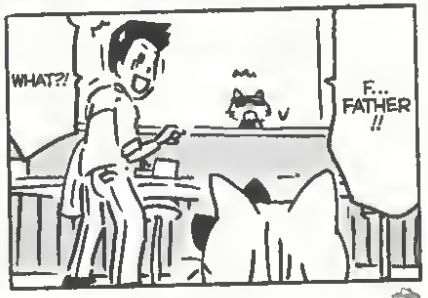


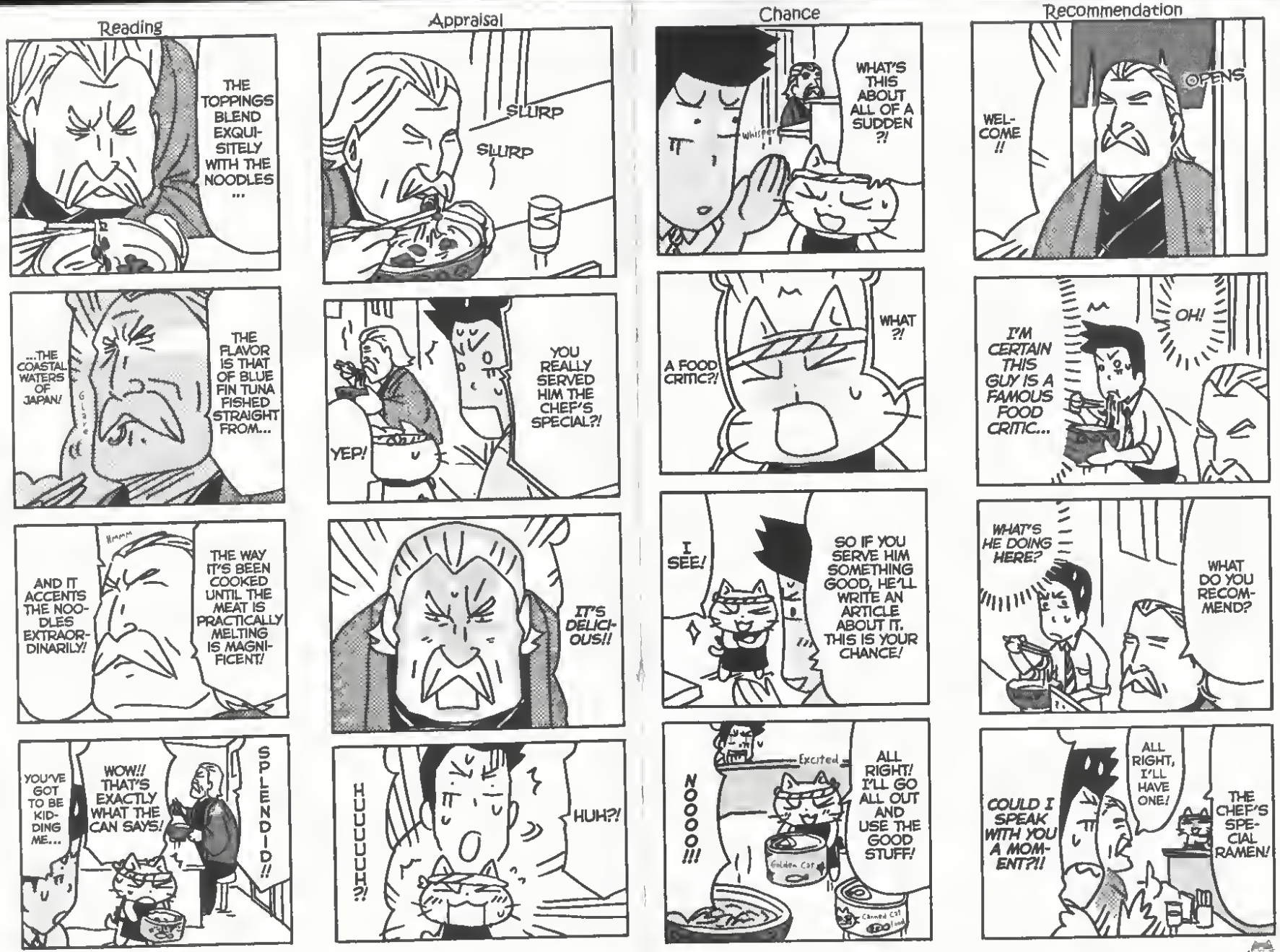
The Mysterious Beautiful Cat



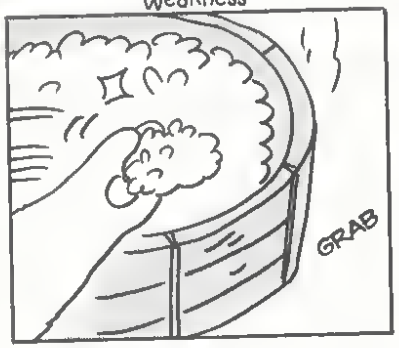


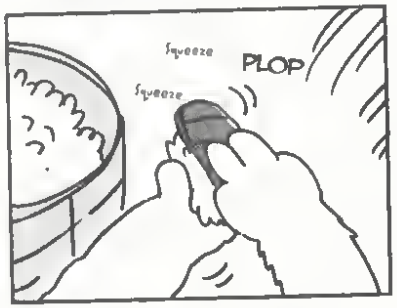


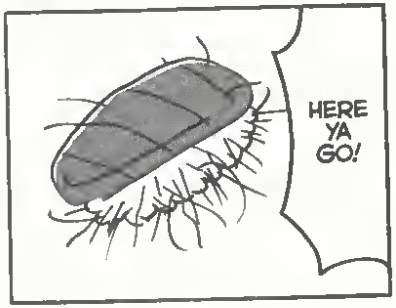



Reading
THE TOPPINGS BLEND EXQUISITELY WITH THE NOODLES ...
...THE COASTAL WATERS OF JAPAN!
THE FLAVOR IS THAT OF BLUE FIN TUNA FISHED STRAIGHT FROM...
AND IT ACCENTS THE NOODLES EXTRAORDINARILY!
Hmmm
THE WAY IT'S BEEN COOKED UNTIL THE MEAT IS PRACTICALLY MELTING IS MAGNIFICENT!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME...
WOW!! THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THE CAN SAYS!
SPLENDID!!
Appraisal
SLURP
SLURP
YEP!
YOU REALLY SERVED HIM THE CHEF'S SPECIAL?!
IT'S DELICIOUS!!
HUUUUUH?!
HUH?!
Chance
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT ALL OF A SUDDEN ?!
whisper
WHAT ?!
A FOOD CRITIC?!
I SEE!
SO IF YOU SERVE HIM SOMETHING GOOD, HE'LL WRITE AN ARTICLE ABOUT IT. THIS IS YOUR CHANCE!
NOOOOO!!!
Excited
Golden Cat
Canned Cat
ALL RIGHT! I'LL GO ALL OUT AND USE THE GOOD STUFF!
Recommendation
OPENS
WELCOME !!
I'M CERTAIN THIS GUY IS A FAMOUS FOOD CRITIC...
OH!
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND?
COULD I SPEAK WITH YOU A MOMENT?!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL HAVE ONE!
THE CHEF'S SPECIAL RAMEN!

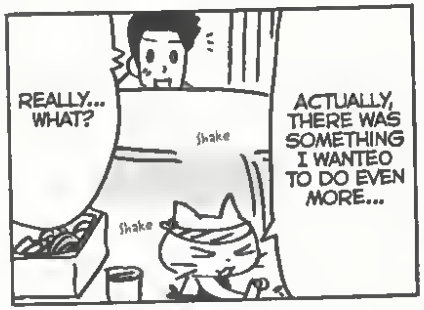
Weakness

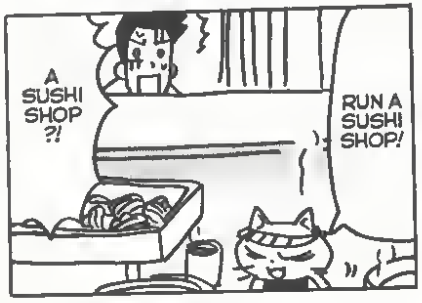




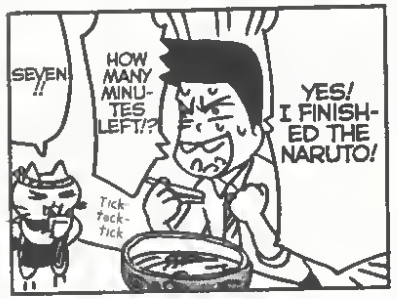


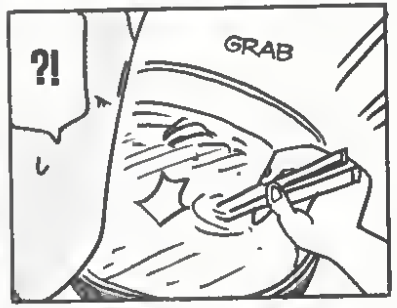
Taisho's Dreams



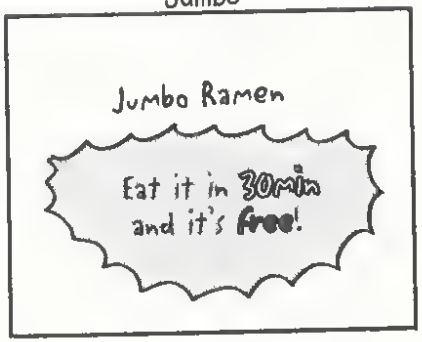


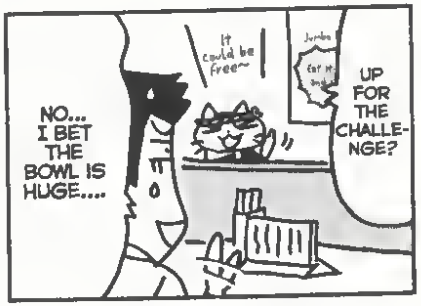
Secret

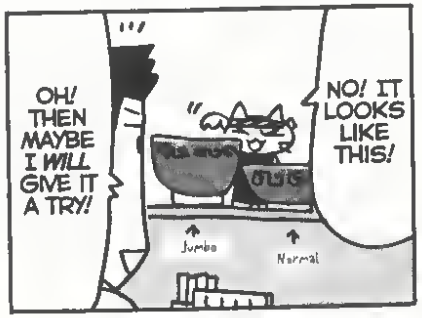


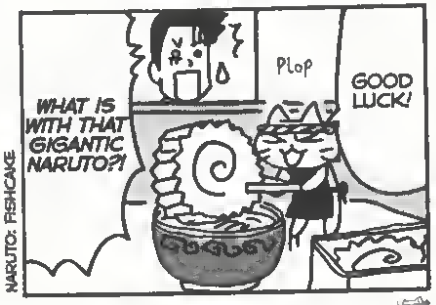


Jumbo

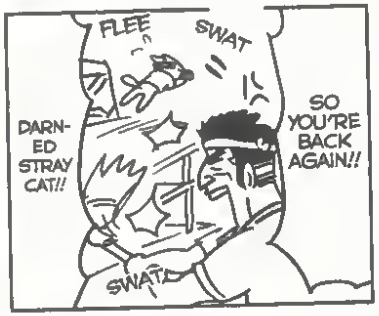


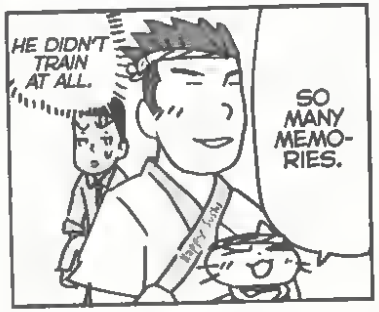




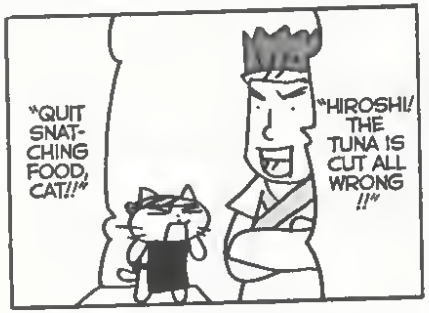


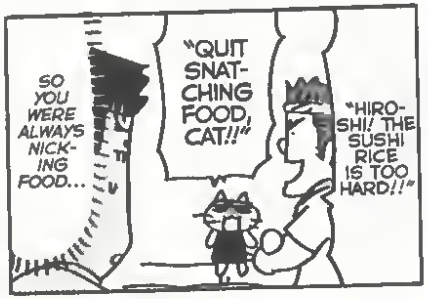
The Training Days





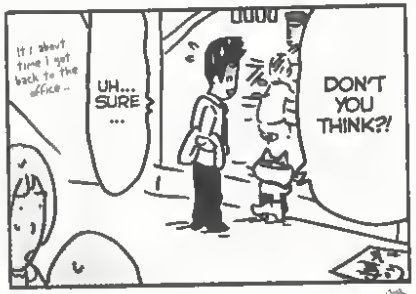
Memories





Neko-ani, the Big Brother Cat

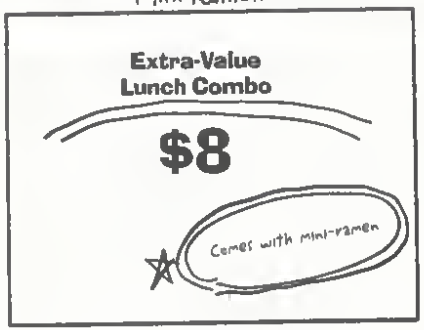
Longing

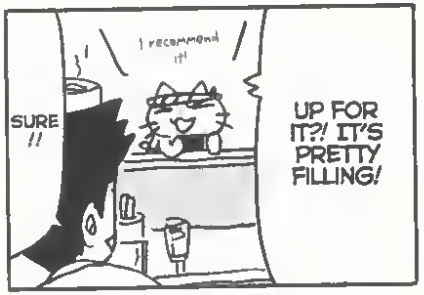


猫ラーメン

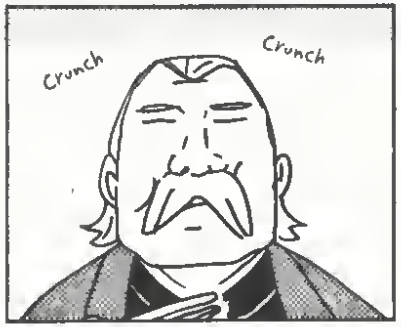
Chapter 6

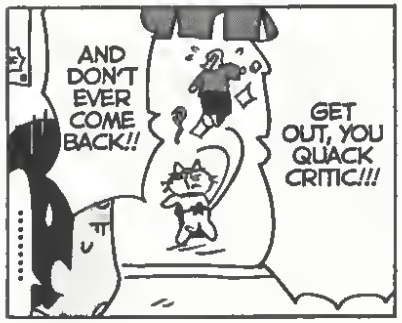
Mini Ramen



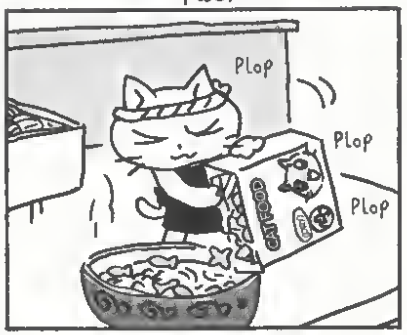


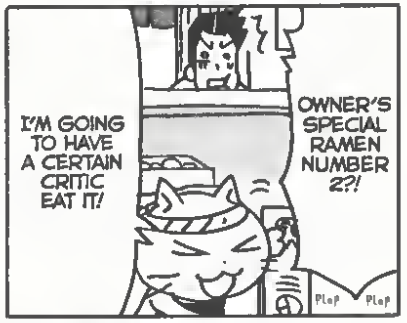
Appraisal

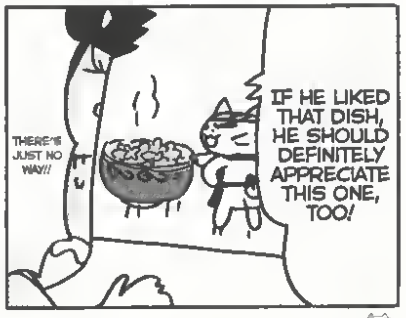




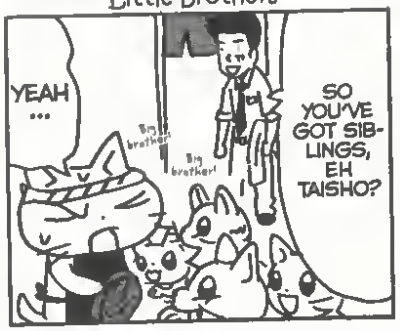
Two!

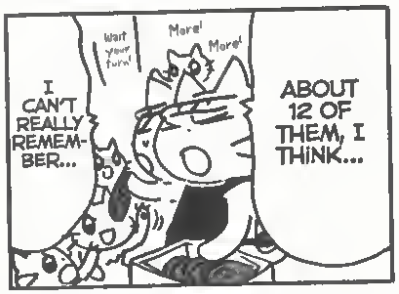


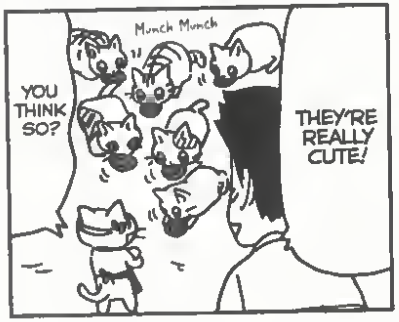


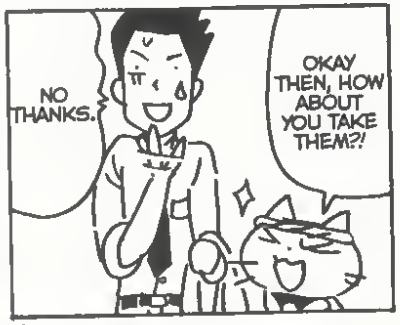


Little Brothers

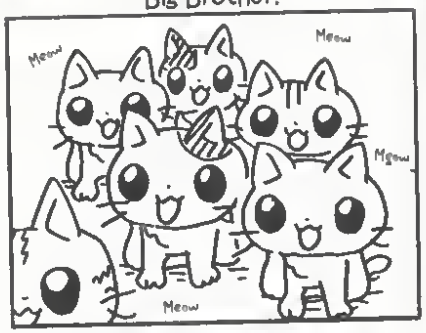


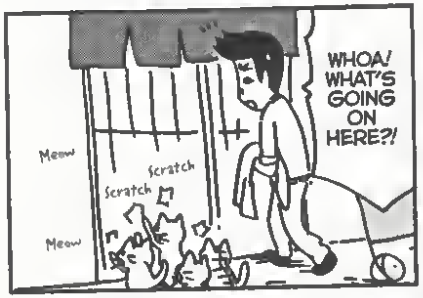


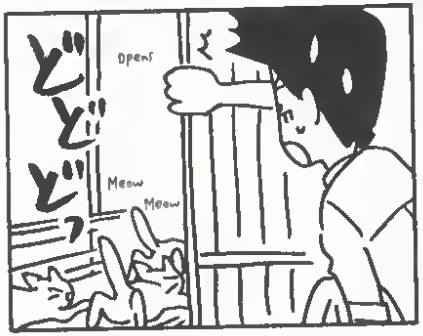


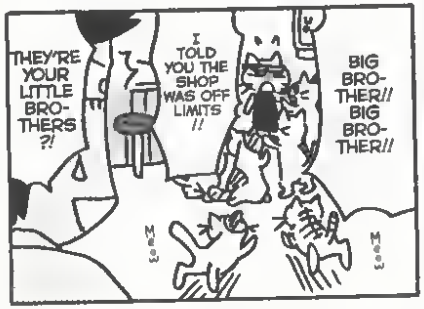


Big Brother!

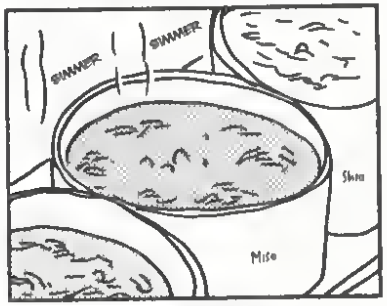


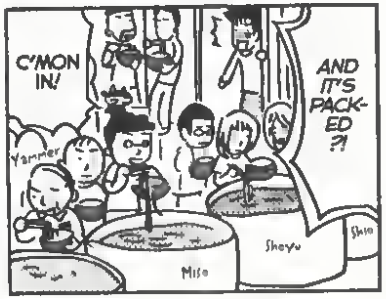






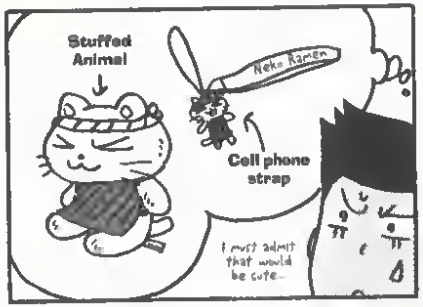
Buffet Style

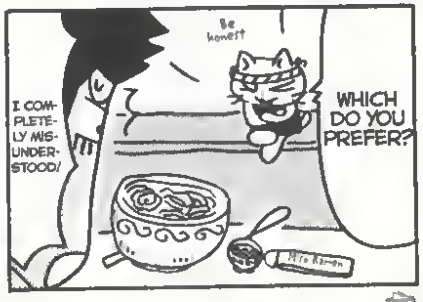




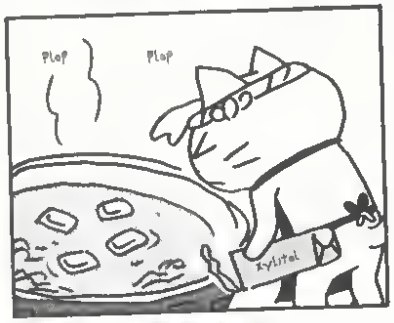
Which one?

CELL PHONE STRAPS? STUFFED ANIMALS ?!!
Rustle Rustle
I'M LOOKING INTO MAKING SOME ORIGINAL STORE MERCHANDISE, BUT I CAN'T DECIDE BETWEEN CELL PHONE STRAPS AND STUFFED ANIMALS.



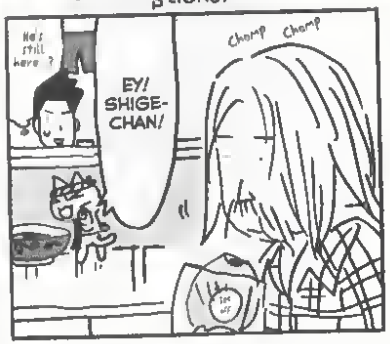


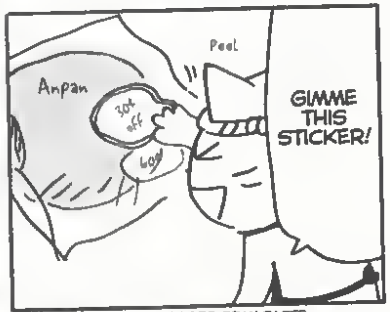
Xylitol



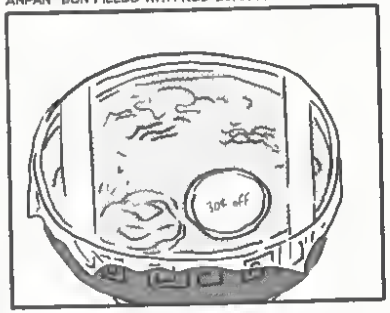
Easy

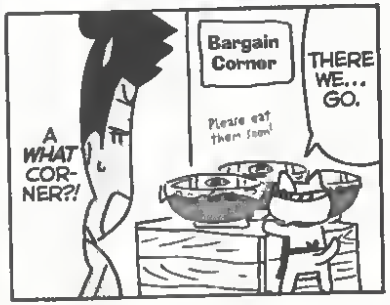
Sticker



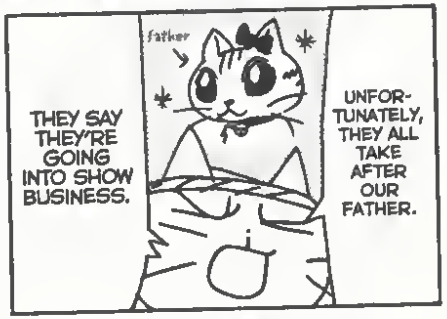


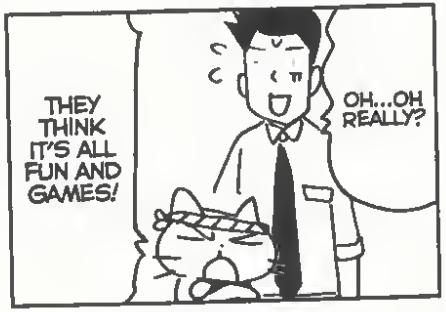
ANPAN- BUN FILLED WITH RED BEAN PASTE.

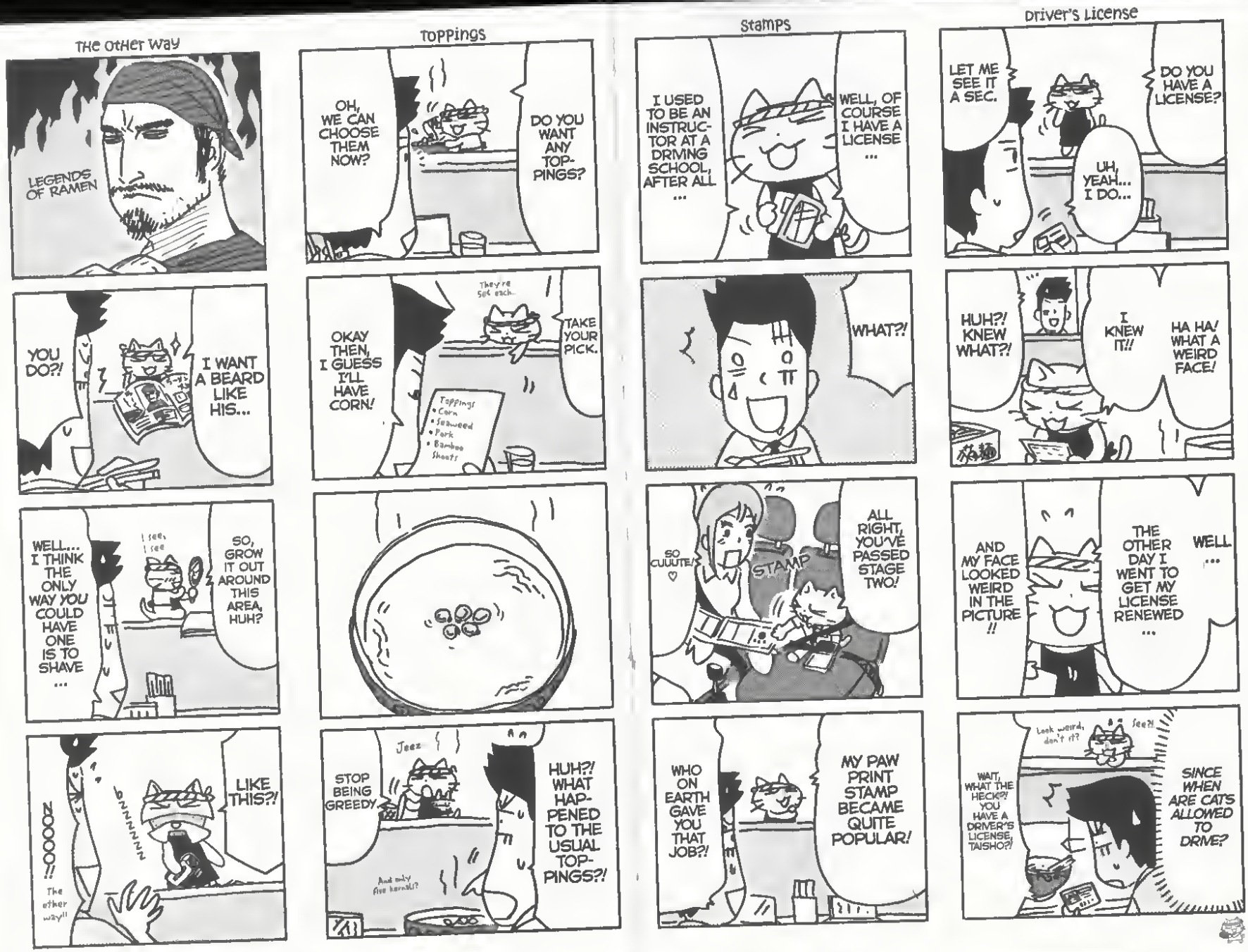


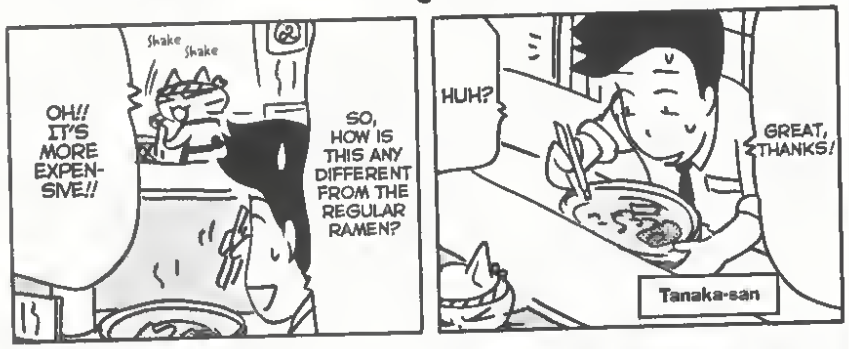


Like Father, Like Sons

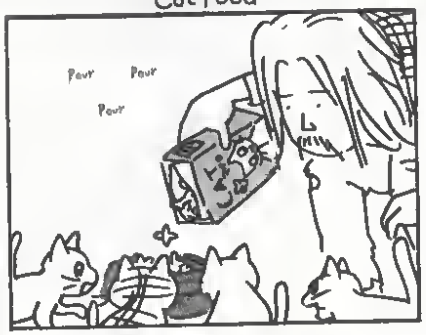




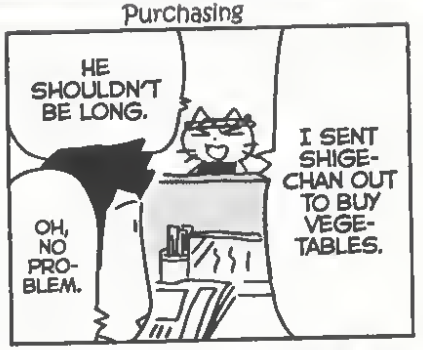

The Other Way
LEGENDS OF RAMEN
YOU DO?!
I WANT A BEARD LIKE HIS...
WELL... I THINK THE ONLY WAY YOU COULD HAVE ONE IS TO SHAVE ...
I see, I see
SO, GROW IT OUT AROUND THIS AREA, HUH?
NOOOO!!
DNNNNN
LIKE THIS?!
The other way!!
Toppings
OH, WE CAN CHOOSE THEM NOW?
DO YOU WANT ANY TOP-PINGS?
OKAY THEN, I GUESS I'LL HAVE CORN!
They're set each.
TAKE YOUR PICK.
Toppings • Corn • Seaweed • Pork • Bamboo Shoots
Jeez
STOP BEING GREEDY
And only five kernels?
HUH?! WHAT HAP-PENED TO THE USUAL TOP-PINGS?!
Stamps
I USED TO BE AN INSTRUC-TOR AT A DRIVING SCHOOL, AFTER ALL ...
WELL, OF COURSE I HAVE A LICENSE ...
WHAT?!
SO CUUUTE!
STAMP
ALL RIGHT, YOU'VE PASSED STAGE TWO!
WHO ON EARTH GAVE YOU THAT JOB?!
MY PAW PRINT STAMP BECAME QUITE POPULAR!
Driver's License
LET ME SEE IT A SEC.
DO YOU HAVE A LICENSE?
UH, YEAH... I DO...
HUH?! KNEW WHAT?!
I KNEW IT!!
HA HA! WHAT A WEIRD FACE!
AND MY FACE LOOKED WEIRD IN THE PICTURE !!
THE OTHER DAY I WENT TO GET MY LICENSE RENEWED ...
WELL ...
Look weird, don't it?
See?!
WAIT, WHAT THE HECK?! YOU HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENSE, TAISHO?!
SINCE WHEN ARE CATS ALLOWED TO DRIVE?

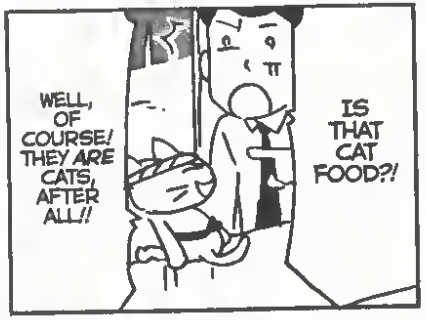


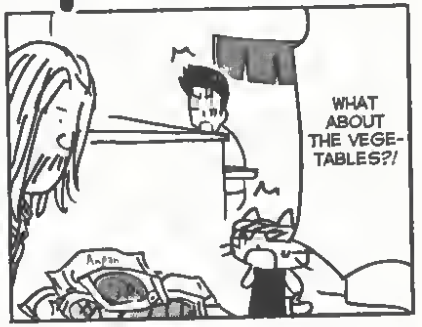
Cat Food

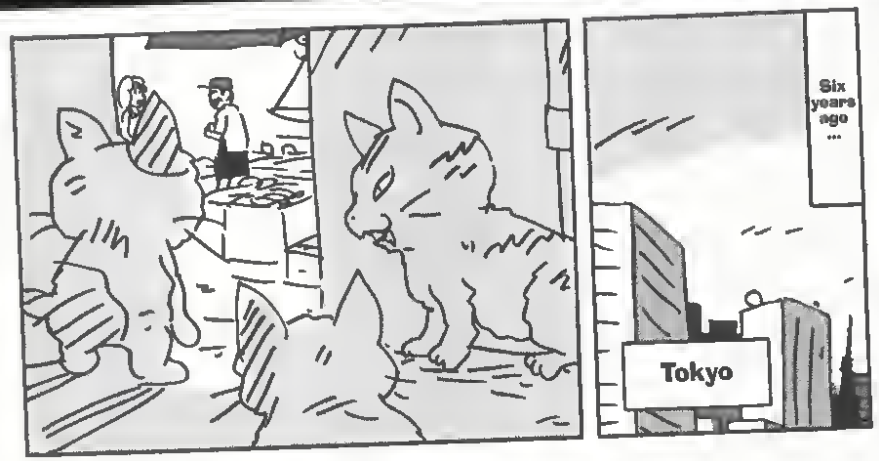


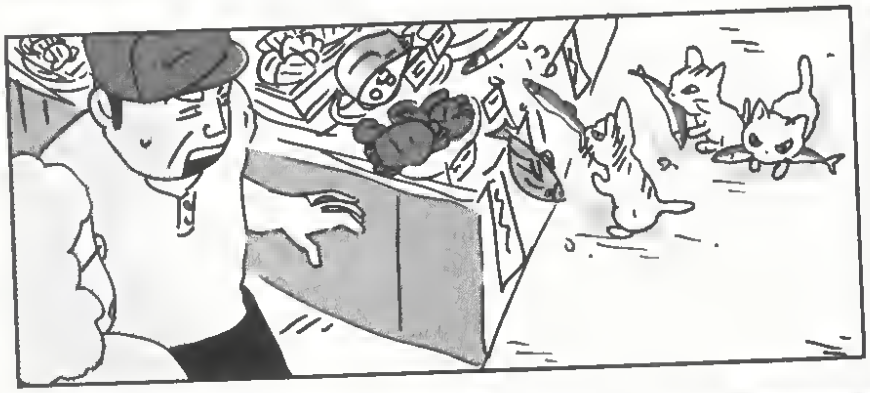
Purchasing

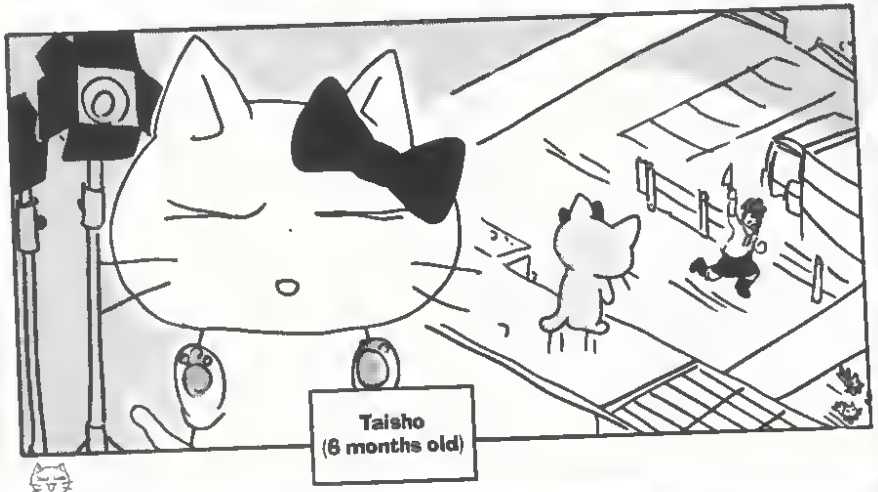






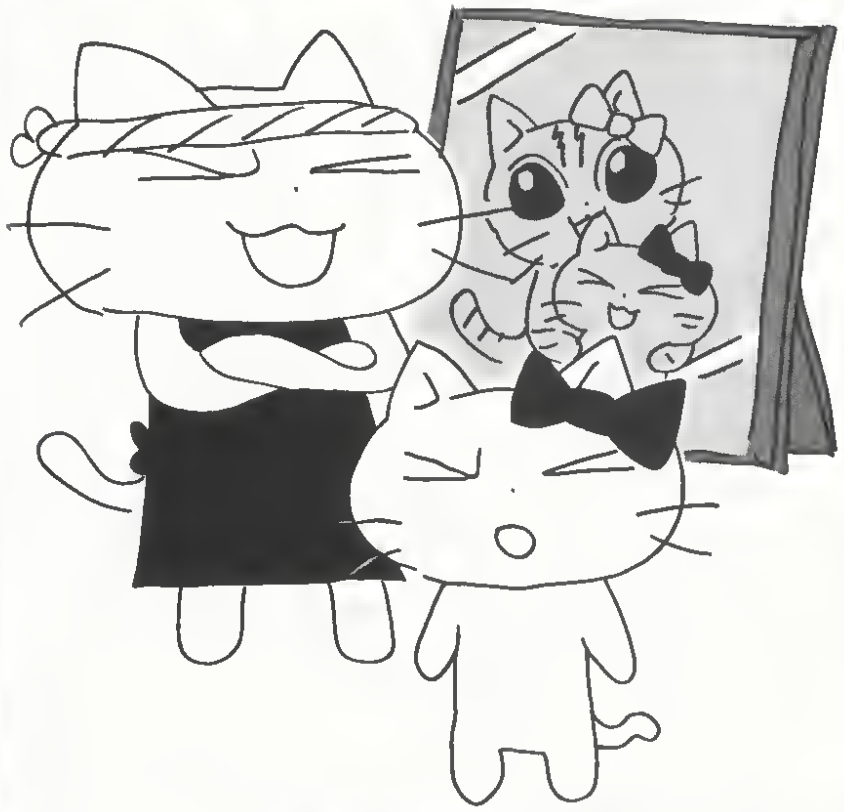




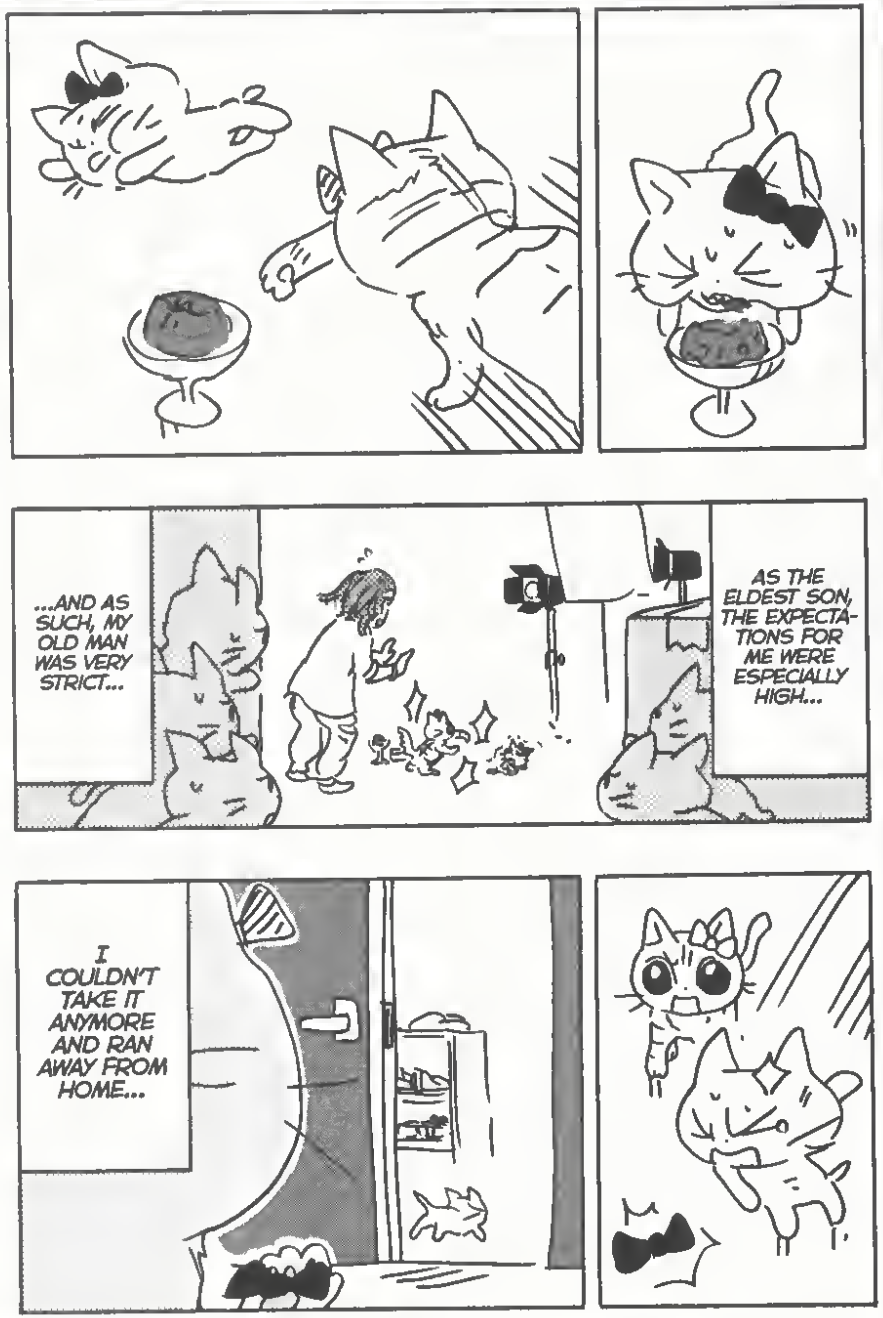


猫ラーメン

Short Comic Special



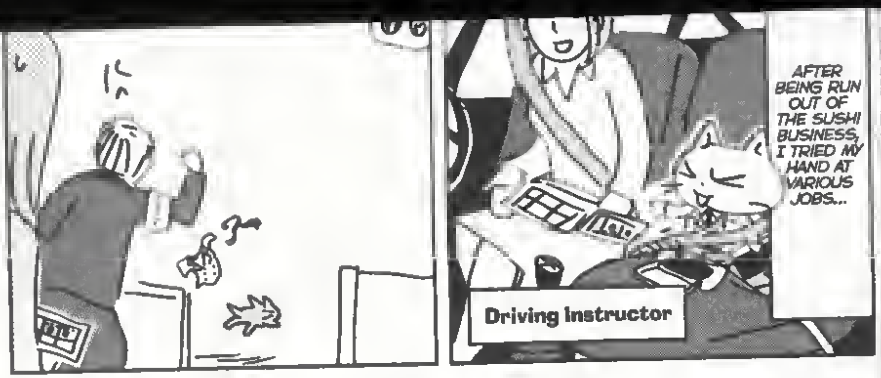
The Beginning of it All


...AND AS SUCH, MY OLD MAN WAS VERY STRICT...
AS THE ELDEST SON, THE EXPECTATIONS FOR ME WERE ESPECIALLY HIGH...
I COULDN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE AND RAN AWAY FROM HOME...

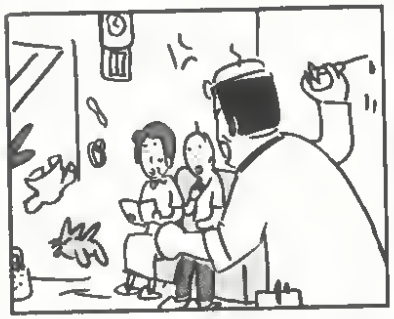
BACK THEN MY OLD MAN WAS ALREADY A TOP CAT MODEL...
AND IT WAS, OF COURSE, ASSUMED THAT I WOULD FOLLOW IN HIS FOOT-STEPS...
Canned Cat Food

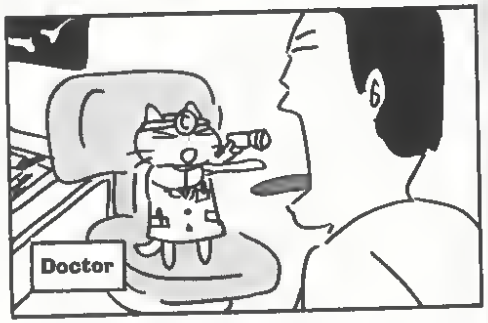
...I WAS UN-EQUIPPED TO CATCH MICE...
SINCE I WAS RAISED TO BE A KITTEN MODEL ...
Now Hiring Part-Timer!
Happy
Happy Sushi

...AND HAD A ROUGH TIME LIVING ON THE STREETS...
COFFEE
BUT I HAD NO PLACE TO GO...



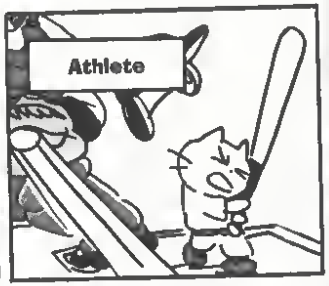
AFTER BEING RUN OUT OF THE SUSHI BUSINESS, I TRIED MY HAND AT VARIOUS JOBS...
Driving instructor

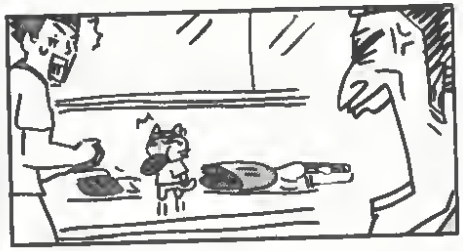


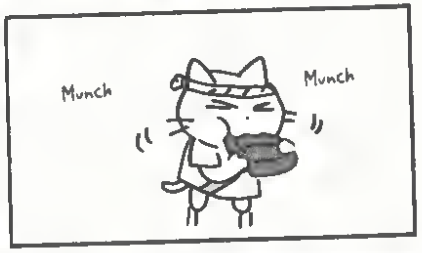

Doctor

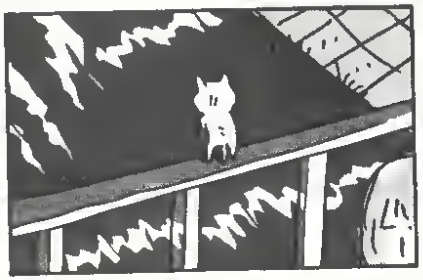
Horse Racing

Artist


Athlete

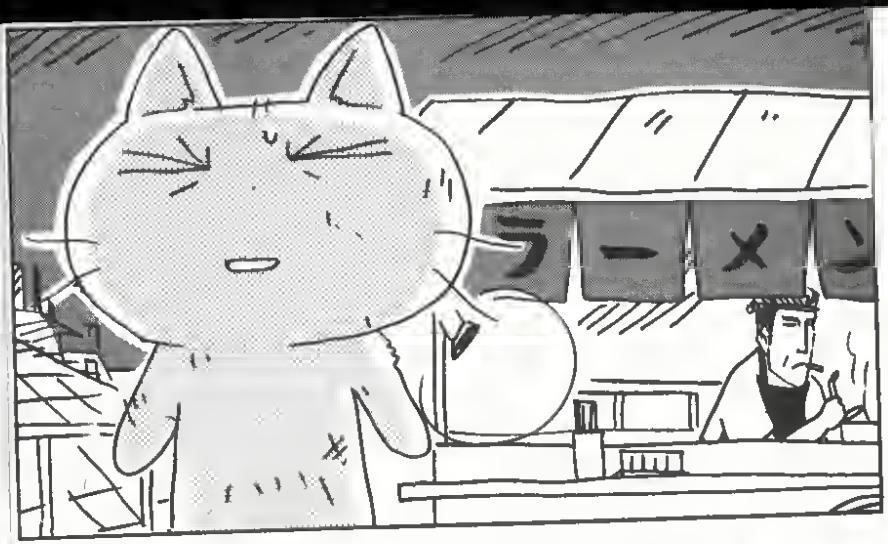


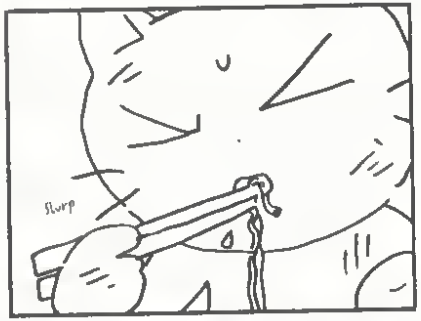

Munch
Munch

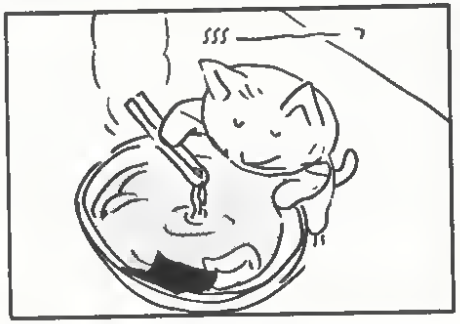


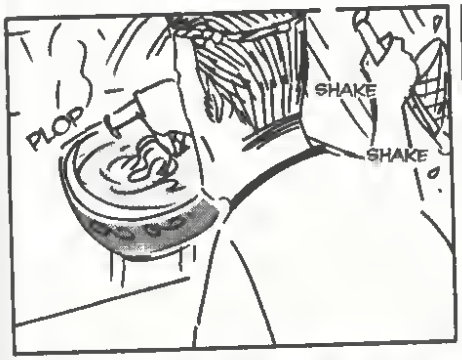
AND SO ...
BUT NONE OF THEM LASTED FOR LONG...

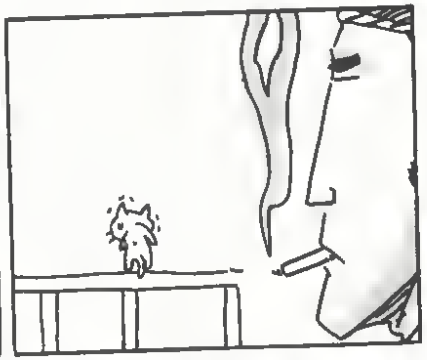
Happy Sushi


ラーメン


Slurp


SSS

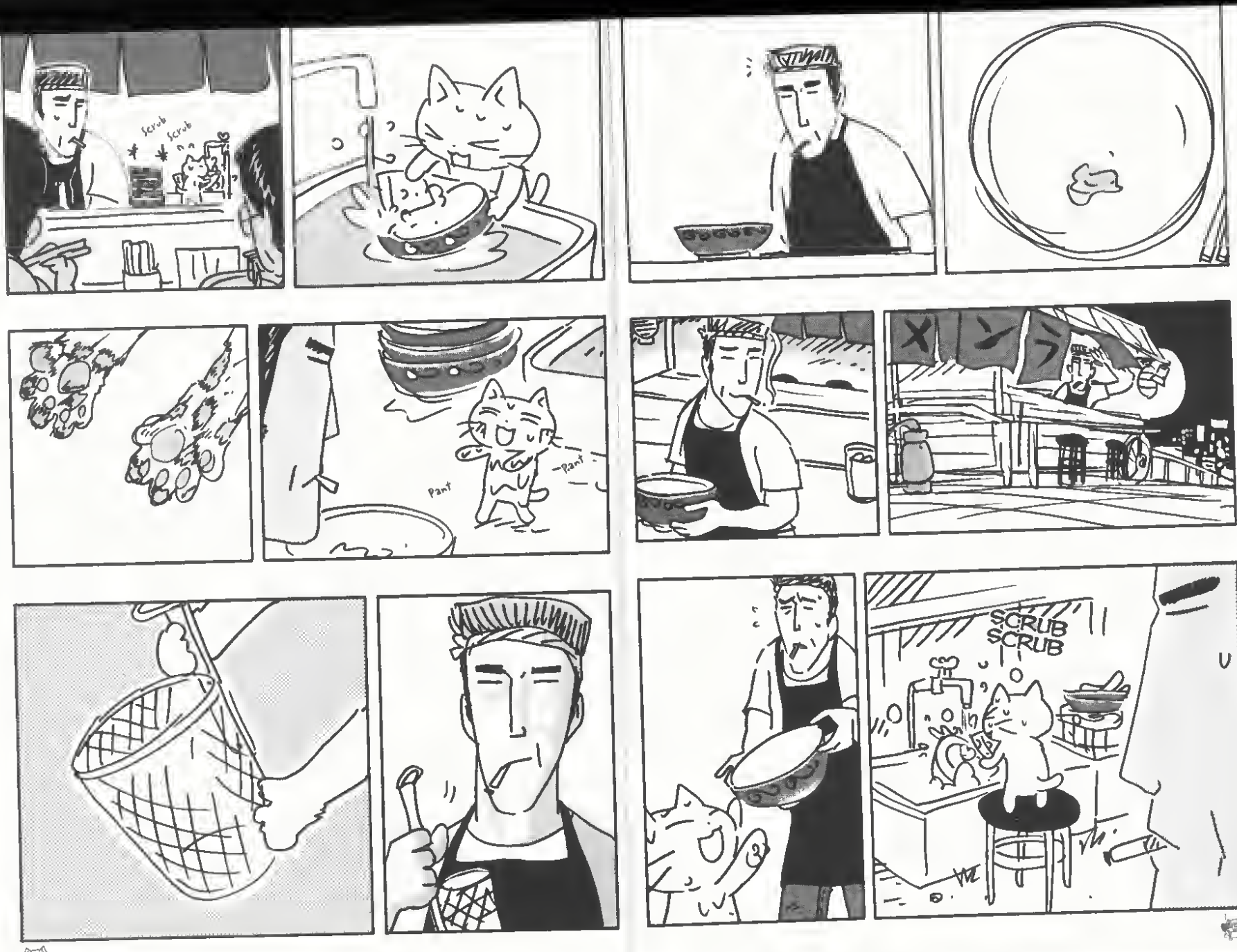

PLOP
SHAKE
SHAKE

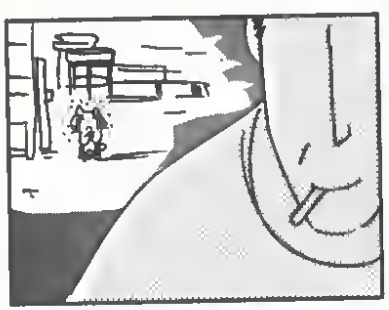


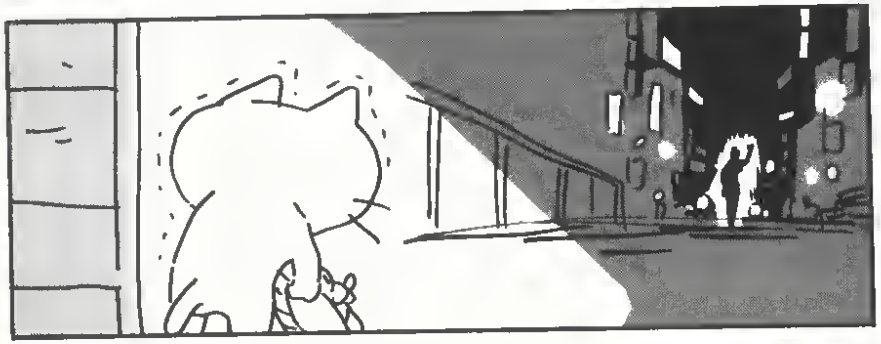
Chomp
Munch
Slurp

ーメン

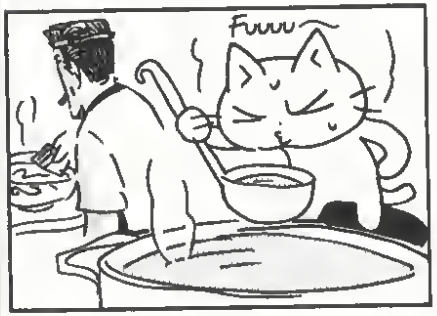
ラーメン

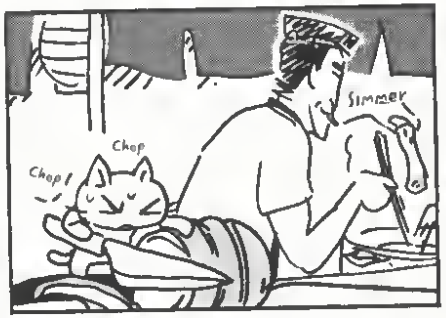

Scrub
Scrub
Pant
Pant
SCRUB
SCRUB

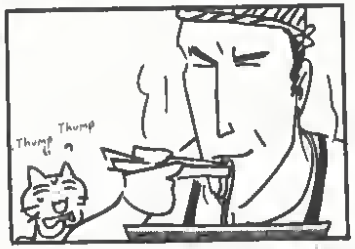




Snort
Snort


Fuuuu


Simmer
Chop
Chop
Chop!


Thump
Thump
Thump

New Name

Ramen Naming Contest!!

Details inside

AH! YOU WANNA TRY NAMING THE NEW RAMEN?!

Naming Contest!!

WHAT'S WITH THIS?!

HERE, I'LL SHOW YOU!

NOT REALLY ...

BUT WHAT HAVE YOU GOT?

HUH ?!

MISO RAAMEN
MISO RAMEEN
MISO RUMEN
MISO RARAA
MISO MENRA
MISO RAA

HERE'S WHAT I'VE GOT SO FAR!

猫ラーメン

Chapter 7

I wonder how the old guy is doing these days..

...I WOULDN'T BE IN THE RAMEN BUSINESS...

...IF IT WEREN'T FOR THAT STREET STAND...

YOU'RE GROSSING ME OUT!!

STOP IT!

Sniff

Sniff

THAT WAS A DARNED GOOD STORY!!

WHOA!!

Sniff Sniff

Sniff

THEY'RE JUST OVER-COOKED !!!!

ULTRA-THICK NOODLES!

WHAT IS IT?!

FORGET ABOUT THAT AND TASTE THIS FOR ME!

Girlfriend

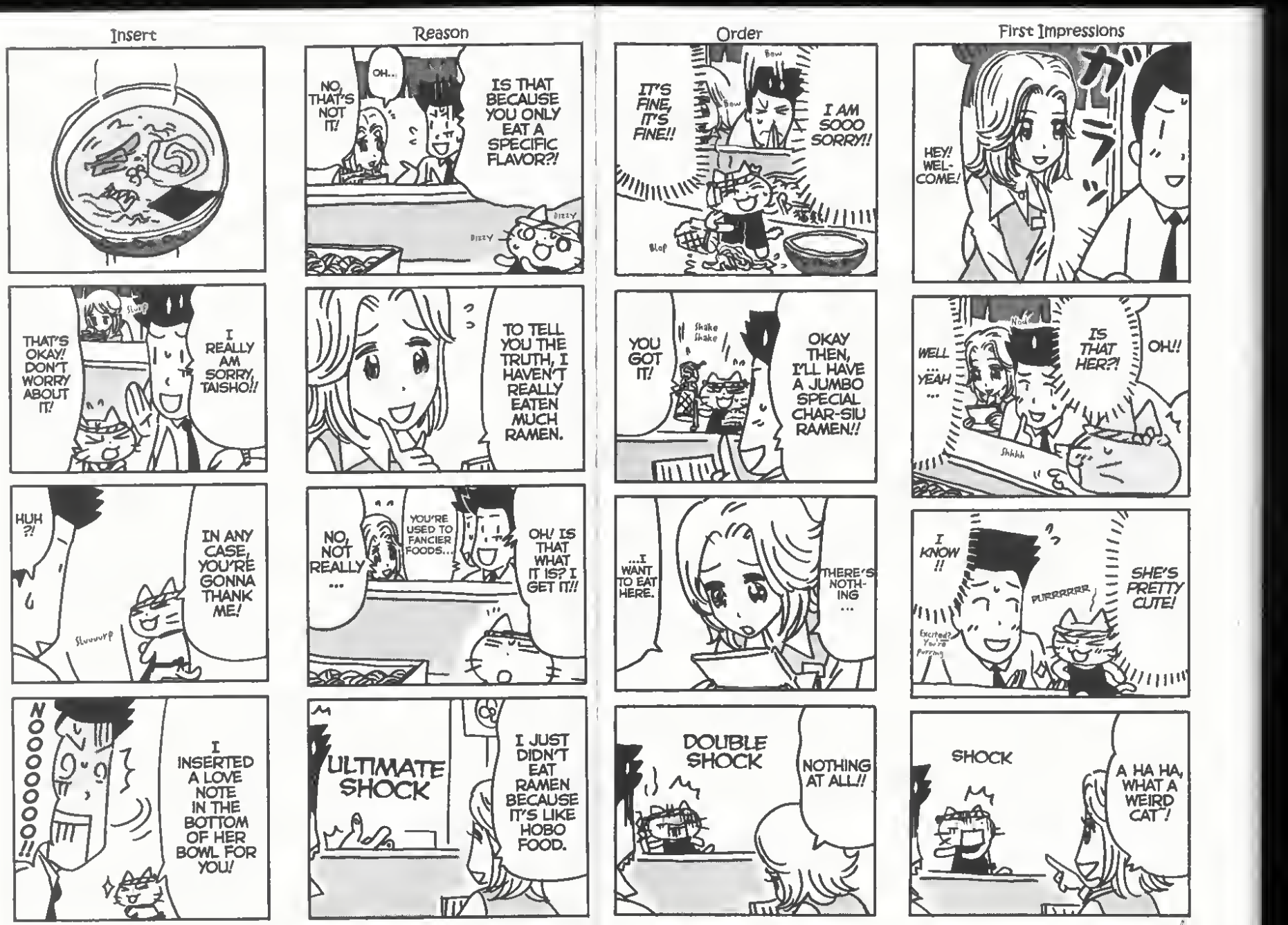
...OR ANY-THING ?!
HEY, DO YOU HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND...
OH YEAH ?!
BUT, THERE IS SOME-ONE I'M INTERE-STED IN...
HUH?! NO...I DON'T ...
WHAT?! HERE?!
BRING HER BY SOMETIME!
I'M MORE CON-CERNED ABOUT HER SEEING YOU...
WHAT? YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH ME CHECKING HER OUT?!

The IT Age

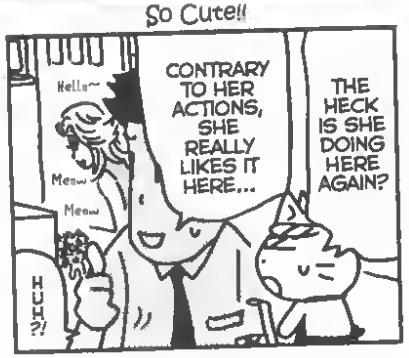
WELL... ABOUT AS MUCH AS THE NEXT GUY...
KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE INTER-NET?!
OKAY THEN, LET'S SAY THERE WAS A FLAVOR CALLED "INTERNET SHOYU." WHAT DO YOU THINK IT WOULD TASTE LIKE?!
OKAY THEN, WHAT IF IT WAS "IN-TERNET MISO" ?!
... NOTH-ING COMES TO MIND ...

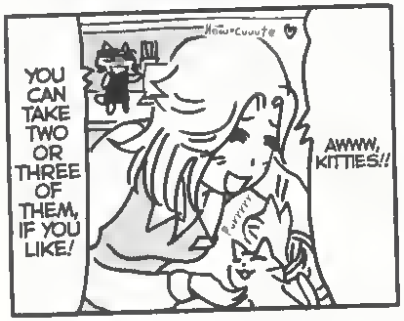
Pressure

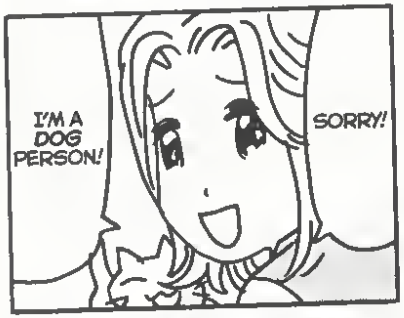
Shige-chan Ramen


Insert
Reason
Order
First Impressions
THAT'S OKAY! DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
I REALLY AM SORRY, TAISHO!!
HUH ?!
IN ANY CASE, YOU'RE GONNA THANK ME!
NOOOOOOO!!!
I INSERTED A LOVE NOTE IN THE BOTTOM OF HER BOWL FOR YOU!
NO, THAT'S NOT IT!
OH...
IS THAT BECAUSE YOU ONLY EAT A SPECIFIC FLAVOR?!
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I HAVEN'T REALLY EATEN MUCH RAMEN.
NO, NOT REALLY ...
YOU'RE USED TO FANCIER FOODS...
OH! IS THAT WHAT IT IS? I GET IT!!
ULTIMATE SHOCK
I JUST DIDN'T EAT RAMEN BECAUSE IT'S LIKE HOBO FOOD.
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE!!
I AM SOOO SORRY!!
YOU GOT IT!
OKAY THEN, I'LL HAVE A JUMBO SPECIAL CHAR-SIU RAMEN!!
...I WANT TO EAT HERE.
THERE'S NOTHING ...
DOUBLE SHOCK
NOTHING AT ALL!!
HEY! WELCOME!
WELL ... YEAH ...
IS THAT HER?!
OH!!
I KNOW !!
PURRRRR
SHE'S PRETTY CUTE!
SHOCK
A HA HA, WHAT A WEIRD CAT!

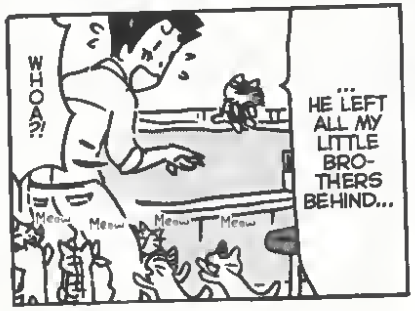
So Cute!!



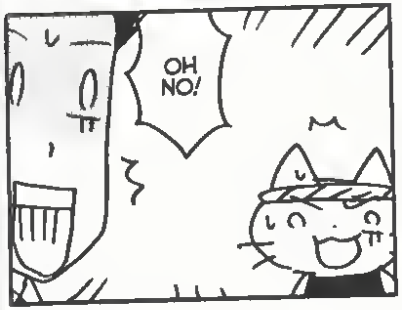


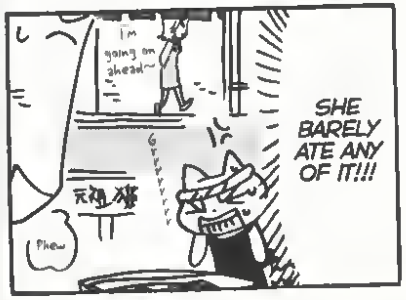


Job Opening

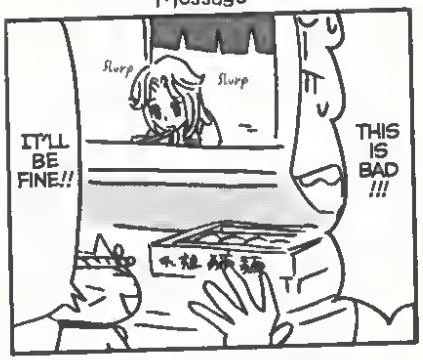


Message: Second Try





Message

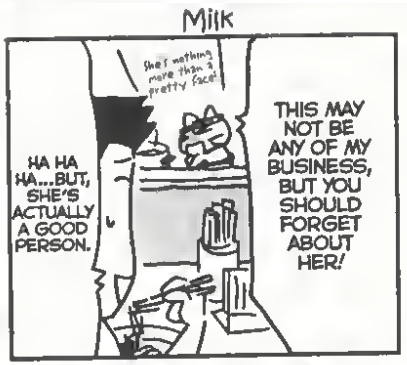


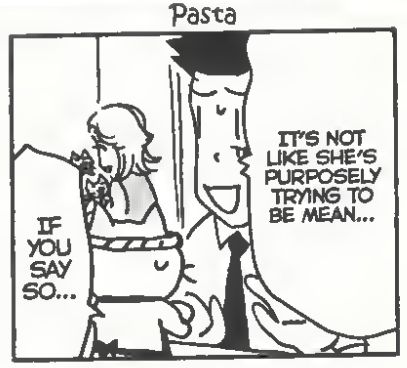
I'm in love with you!!
-Takeshi

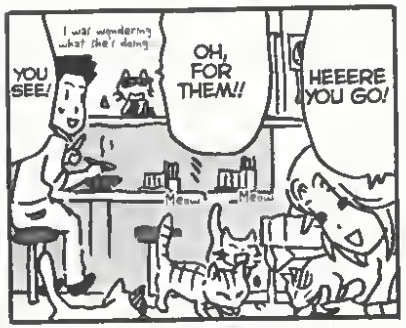
猫ラーメン

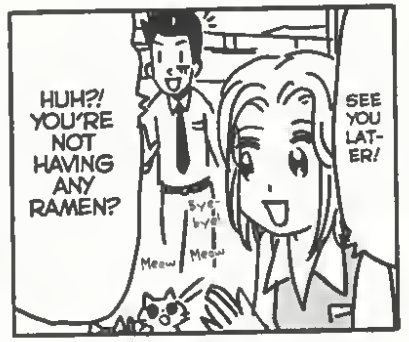
Short Comic Special

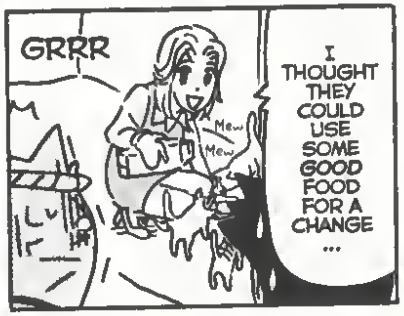
The Bowl of Friendship

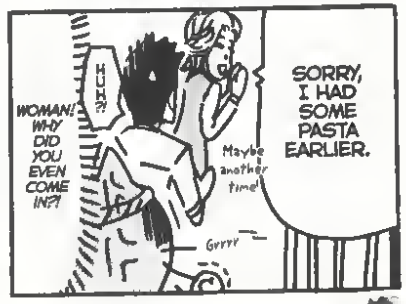

Milk
She's nothing more than a pretty face!
HA HA HA...BUT, SHE'S ACTUALLY A GOOD PERSON.
THIS MAY NOT BE ANY OF MY BUSINESS, BUT YOU SHOULD FORGET ABOUT HER!

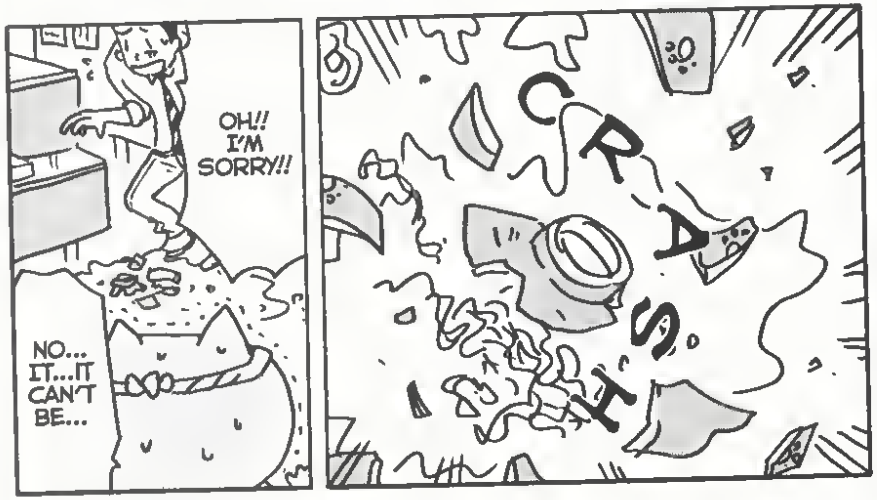


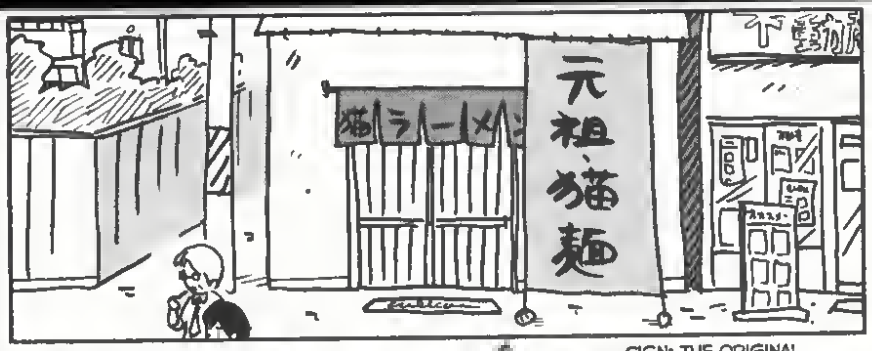




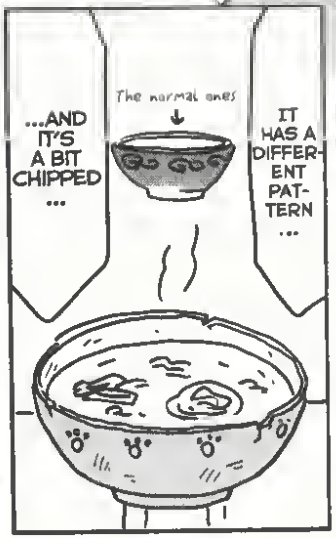


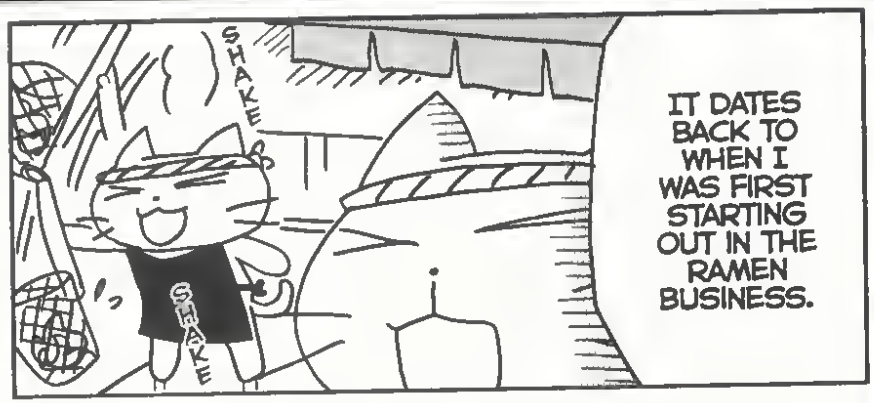


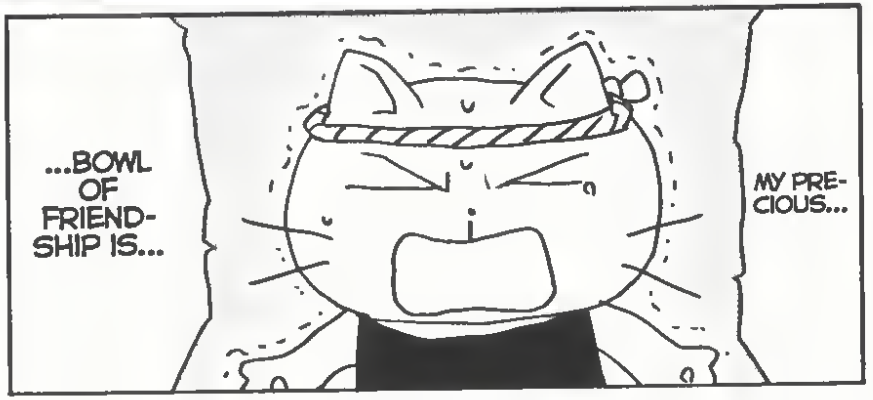


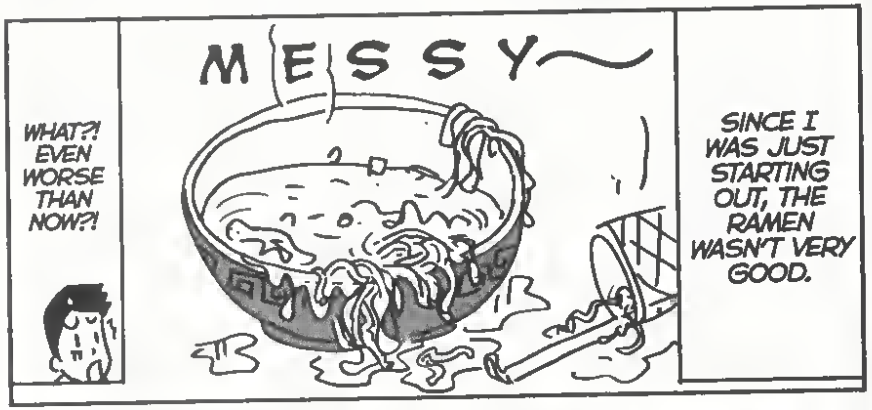


SIGN: THE ORIGINAL NEKO NOODLES



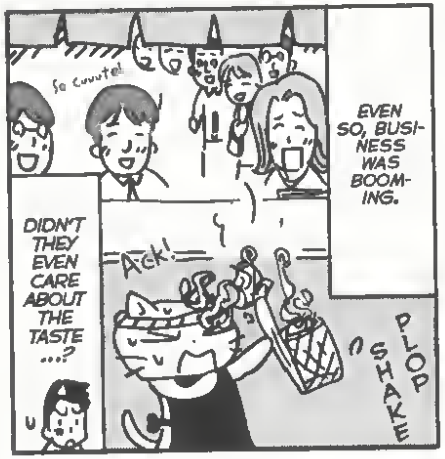

SHAKE
SHAKE
IT DATES BACK TO WHEN I WAS FIRST STARTING OUT IN THE RAMEN BUSINESS.

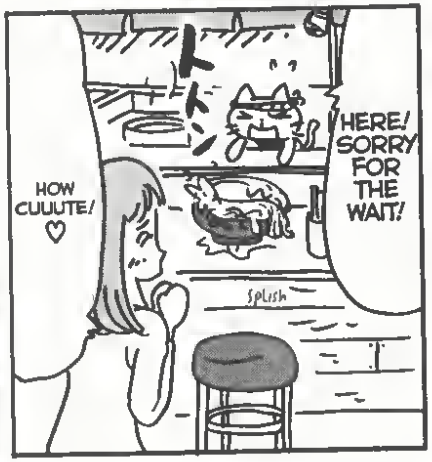

...BOWL OF FRIEND-SHIP IS...
MY PRE-CIOUS...

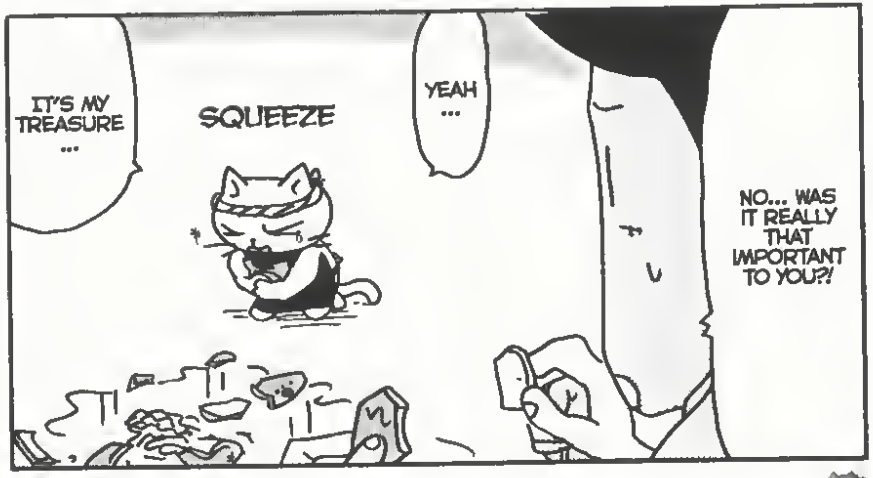

WHAT?! EVEN WORSE THAN NOW?!
M E S S Y ~
SINCE I WAS JUST STARTING OUT, THE RAMEN WASN'T VERY GOOD.

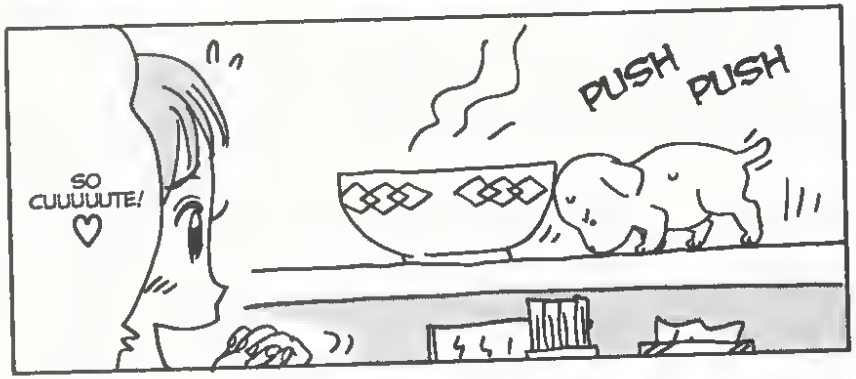
I NEVER TOLD YOU?!
WHAT?

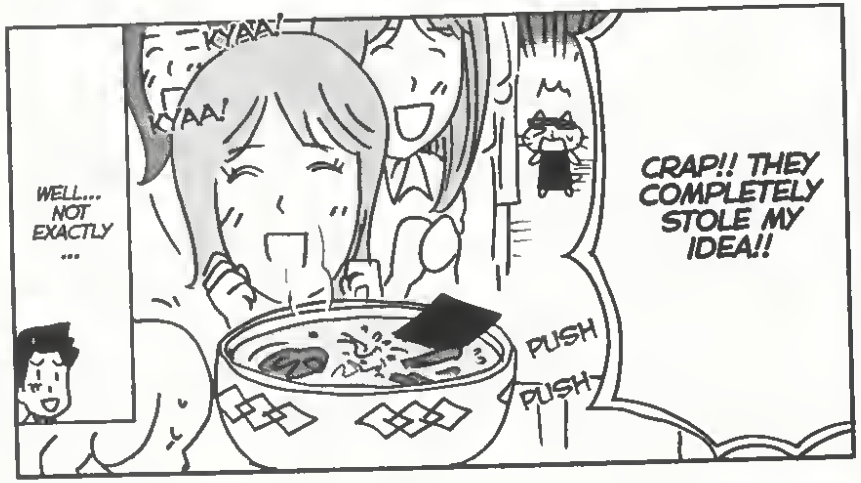
WHAT'S THAT?!
B... BOWL OF FRIEND-SHIP?!


So Cuuute!
DIDN'T THEY EVEN CARE ABOUT THE TASTE ...?
Ack!
EVEN SO, BUSI-NESS WAS BOOM-ING.
PLOP
SHAKE

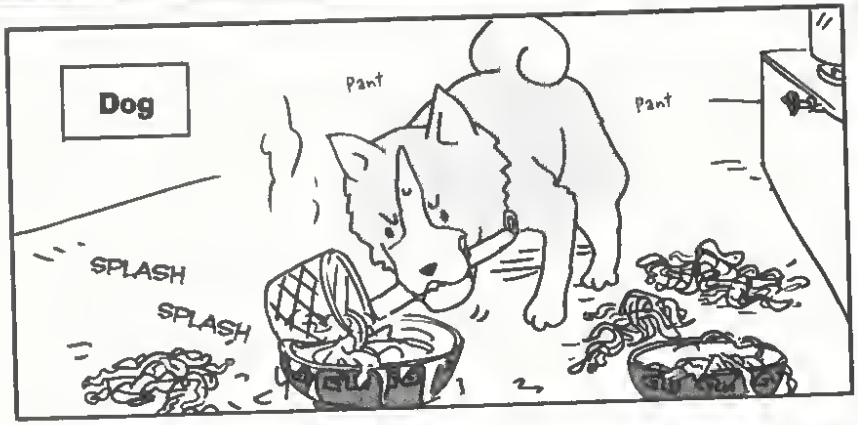

トン
HOW CUUUTE! ♡
Splish
HERE! SORRY FOR THE WAIT!

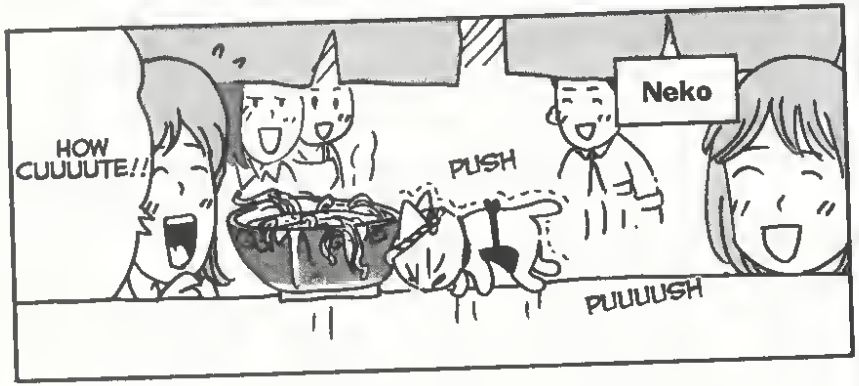

IT'S MY TREASURE ...
SQUEEZE
YEAH ...
NO... WAS IT REALLY THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU?!

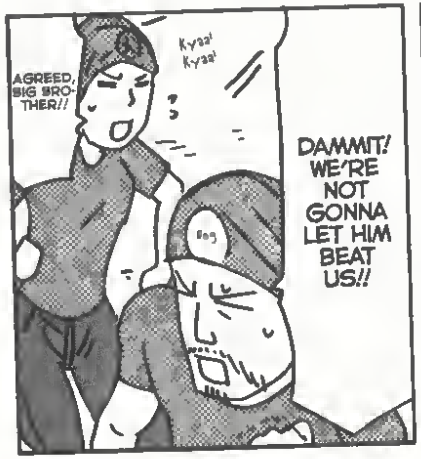




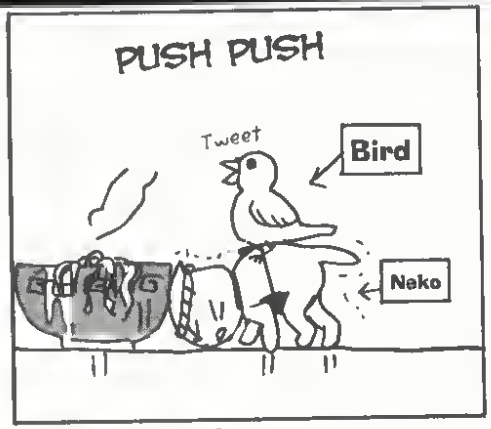
SIGN: THE ORIGINAL DOG RAMEN.

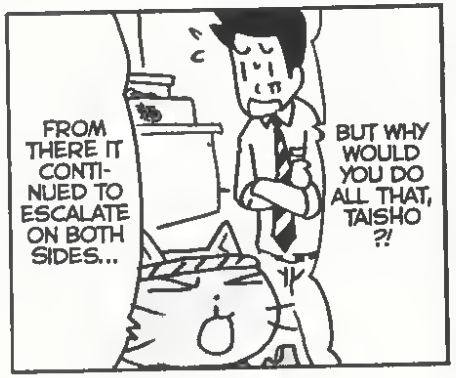




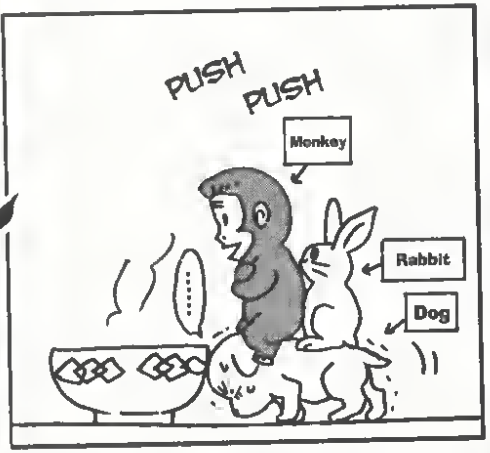


SIGN: DOG + NEKO RAMEN

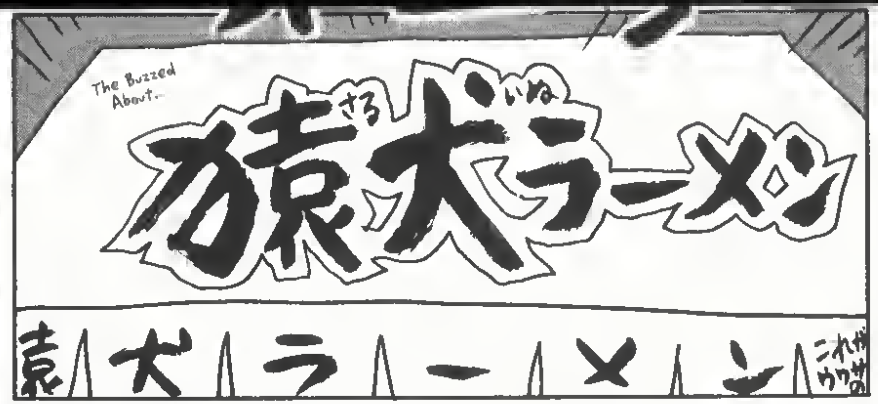




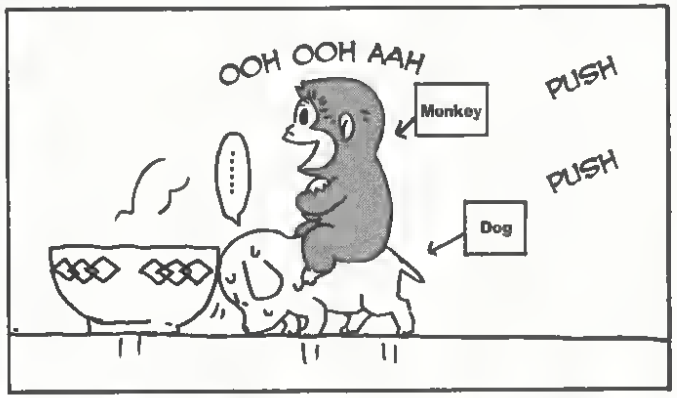
SIGN: MONKEY DOG RABBIT RAMEN

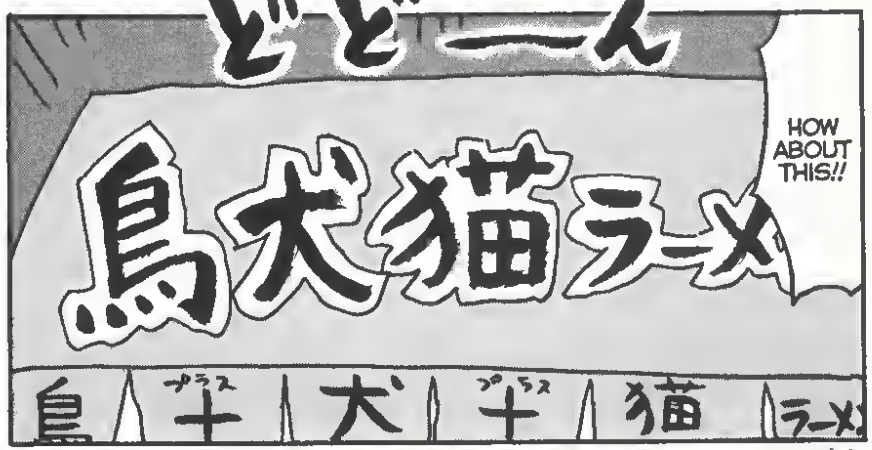


SIGN: BIRD DOG EEL RAMEN

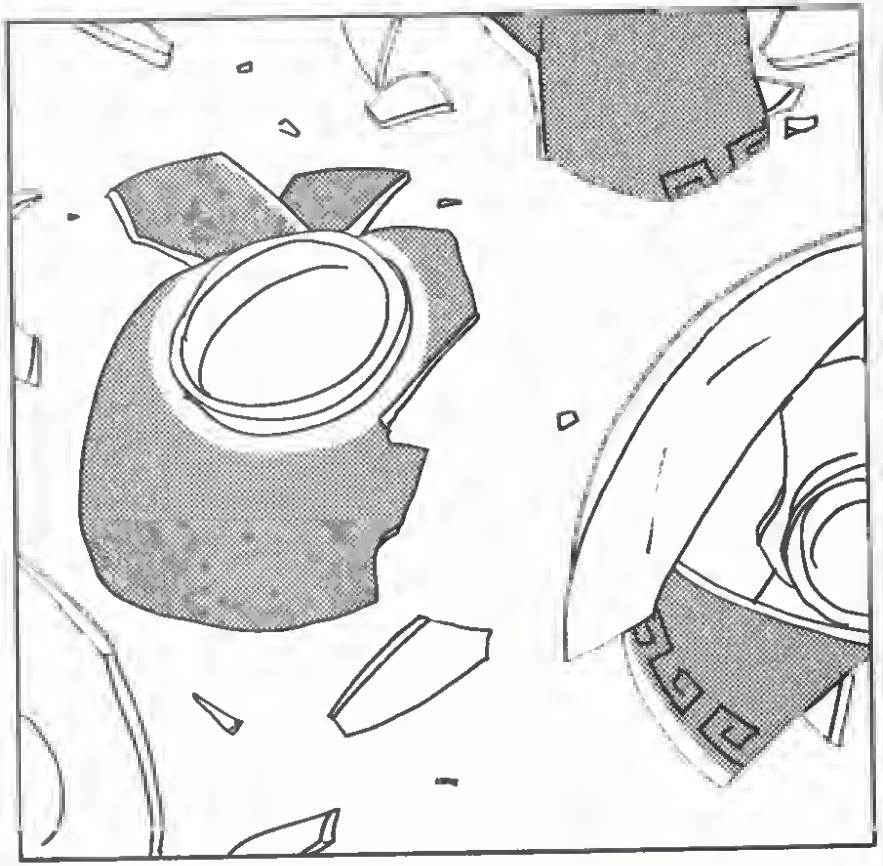


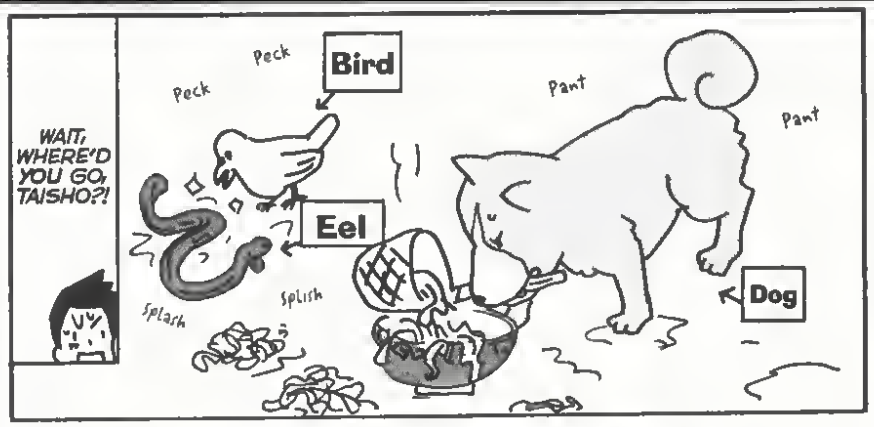
SIGN: MONKEY DOG RAMEN

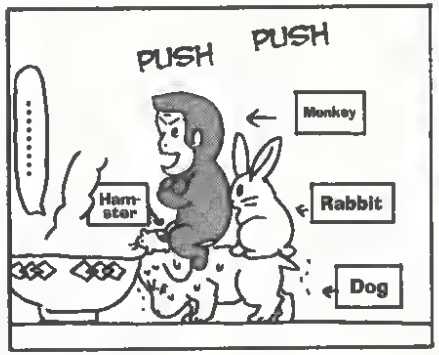




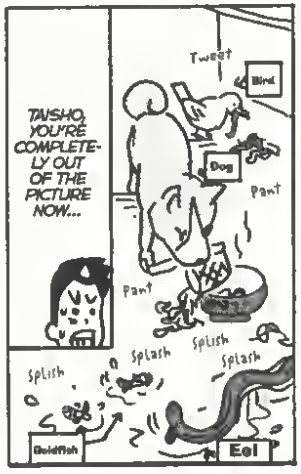
SIGN: BIRD + DOG + NEKO RAMEN



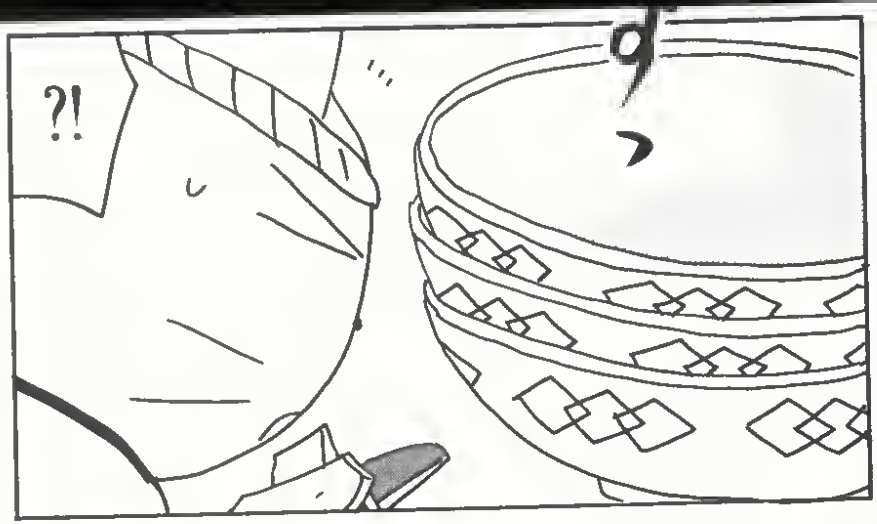




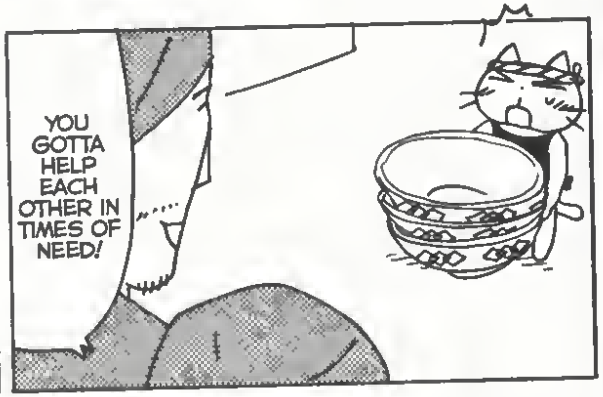
SIGN: MONKEY DOG RABBIT HAMSTER RAMEN

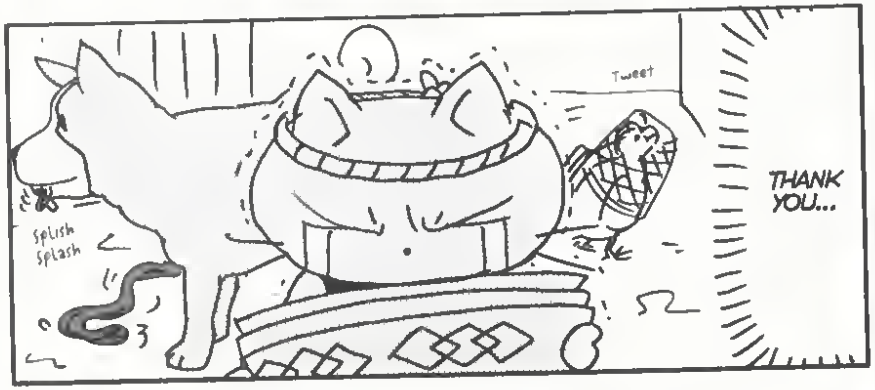


SIGN. BIRD DOG EEL GOLDFISH RAMEN

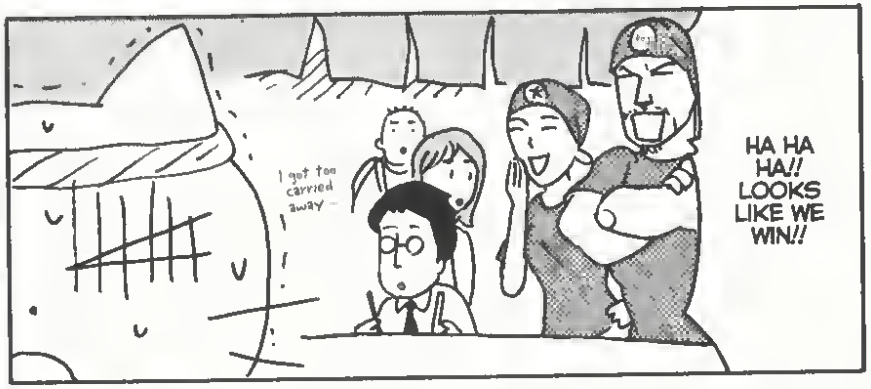

?!

ALL RIGHT! LET'S GIVE IT ALL WE'VE GOT!!
BUT WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF LOSING TO YOU!


YOU GOTTA HELP EACH OTHER IN TIMES OF NEED!

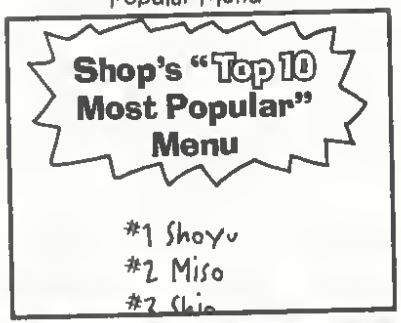

Splish Splash
Tweet
THANK YOU...

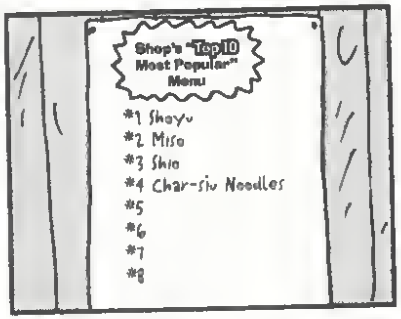
THEY'RE ALL BROKEN...
.....
SHOCK

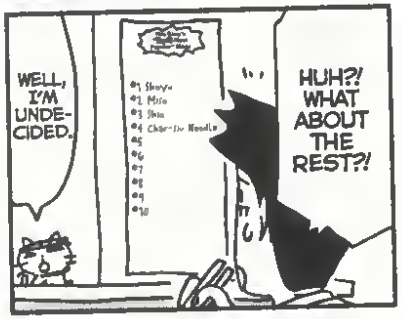

I got too carried away...
HA HA HA!! LOOKS LIKE WE WIN!!

.....
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
MY MISO READY YET?
HURRY UP!
I'D LIKE A CHAR-SIU, PLEASE!!
THREE SHO-YU!!
IS MY MISO READY YET?!
Crash
Crash
.....

Popular Menu

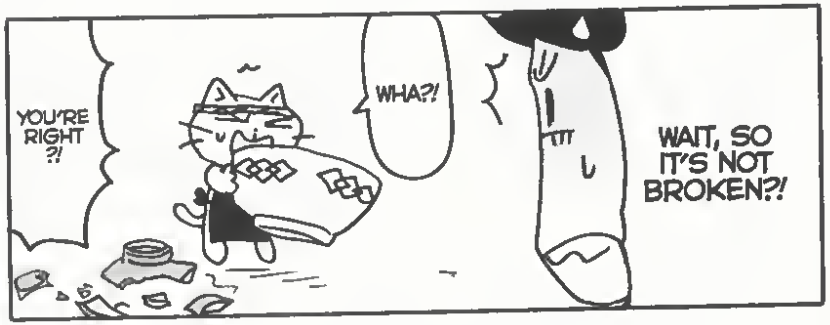


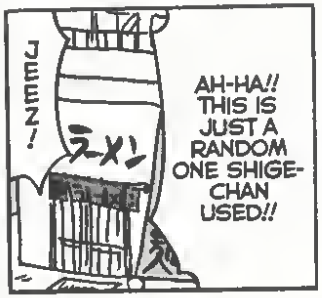


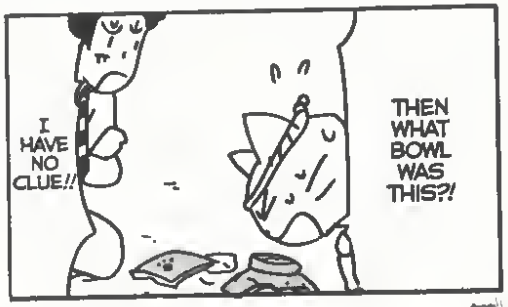


猫ラーメン

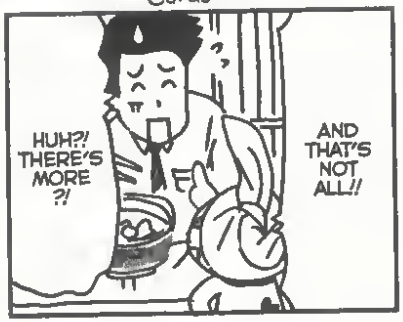
Chapter 8

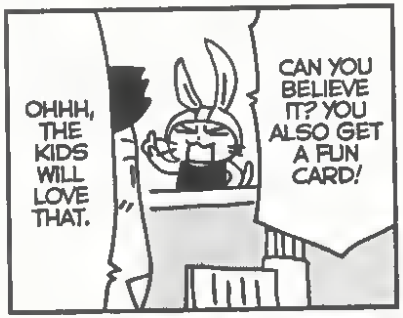




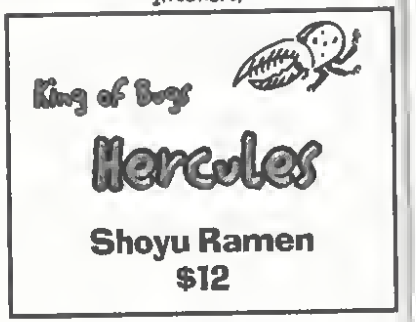


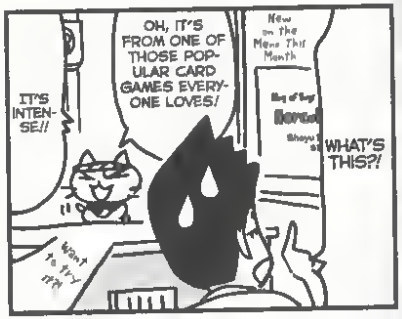
Cards

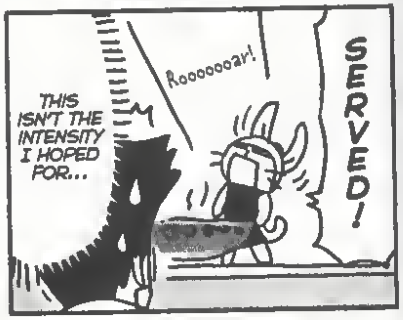




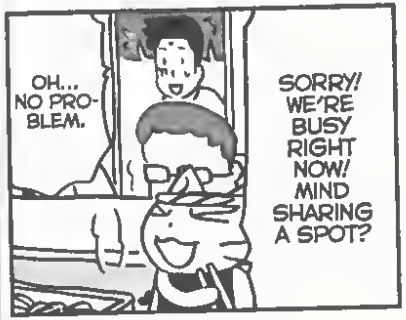
Intensity

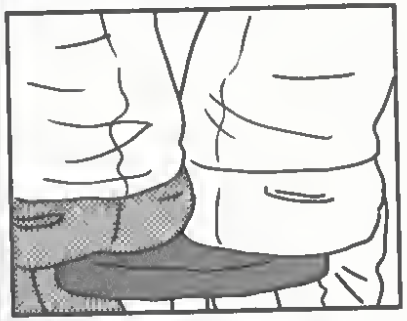


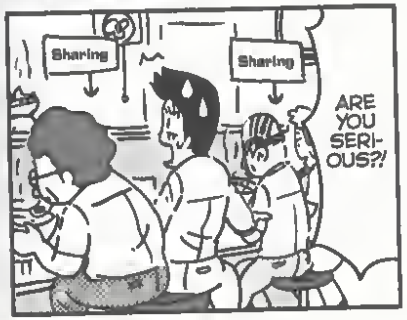




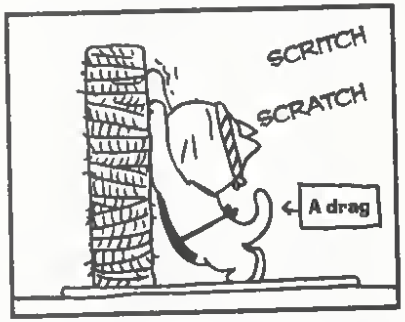
Splitting a Table

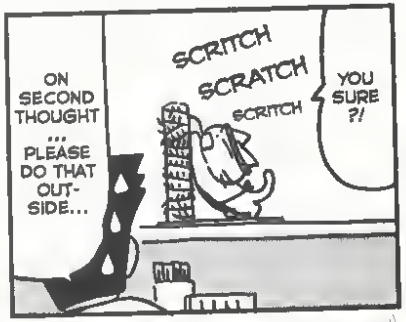


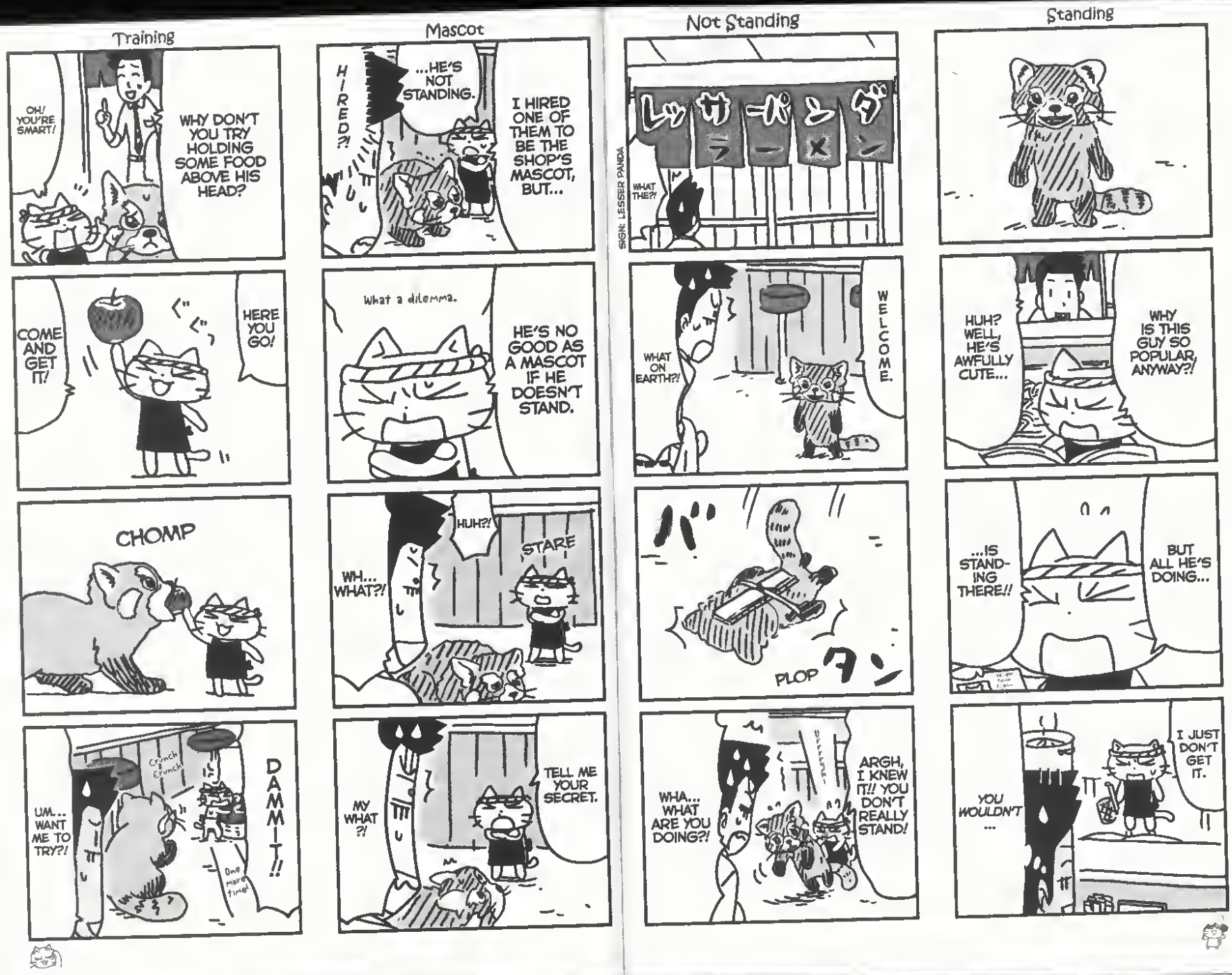




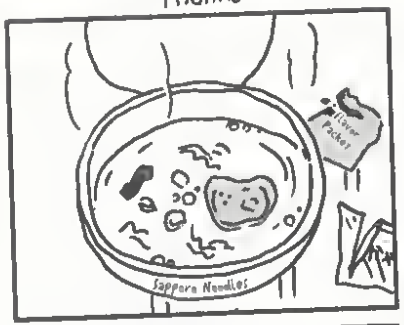
A Quick Drag

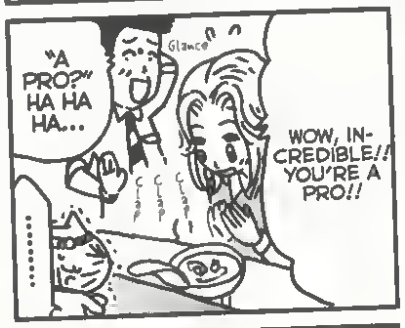


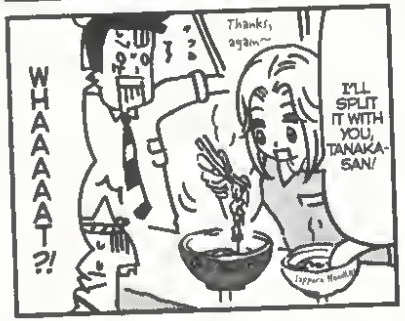



Training
OH! YOU'RE SMART!
WHY DON'T YOU TRY HOLDING SOME FOOD ABOVE HIS HEAD?
COME AND GET IT!
HERE YOU GO!
CHOMP
UM... WANT ME TO TRY?!
Crunch Crunch
DAMMIT!!
Mascot
HIRED?!
...HE'S NOT STANDING.
I HIRED ONE OF THEM TO BE THE SHOP'S MASCOT, BUT...
What a dilemma.
HE'S NO GOOD AS A MASCOT IF HE DOESN'T STAND.
WH... WHAT?!
HUH?!
STARE
MY WHAT?!
TELL ME YOUR SECRET.
Not Standing
SIGN: LESSER PANDA
WHAT THE?!
WHAT ON EARTH?!
WELCOME.
PLOP
WHA... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
ARGH, I KNEW IT!! YOU DON'T REALLY STAND!
Standing
HUH? WELL, HE'S AWFULLY CUTE...
WHY IS THIS GUY SO POPULAR, ANYWAY?!
...IS STANDING THERE!!
BUT ALL HE'S DOING...
YOU WOULDN'T ...
I JUST DON'T GET IT.

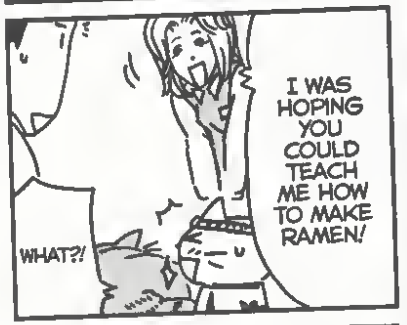
Thanks

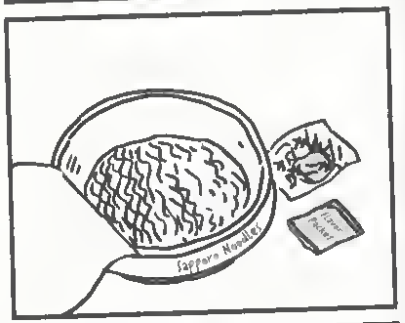


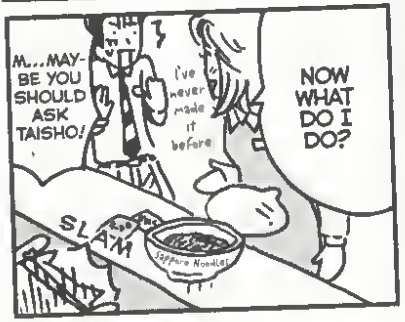




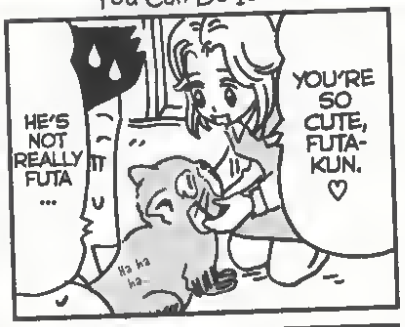
How to Make It

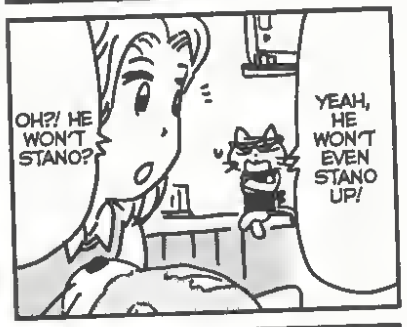


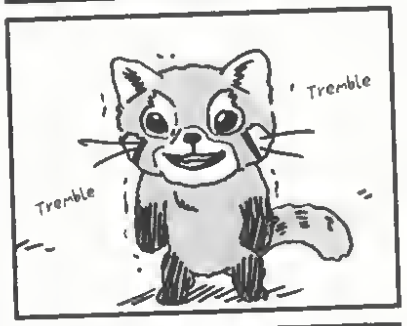


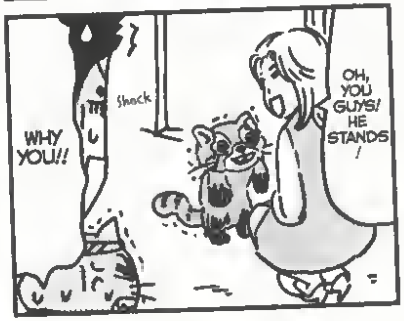


You Can Do It

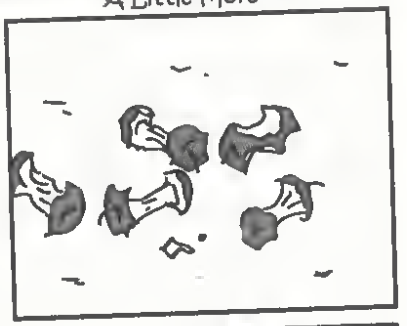


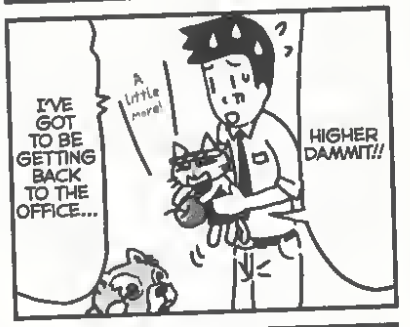






A Little More





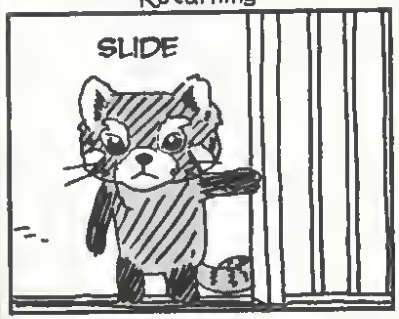
猫ラーメン

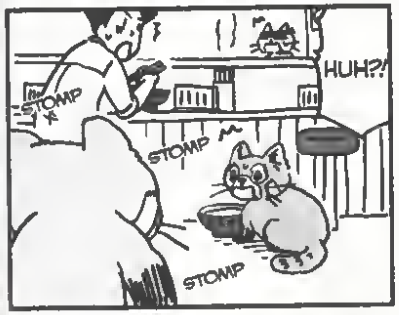
Short Comic Special

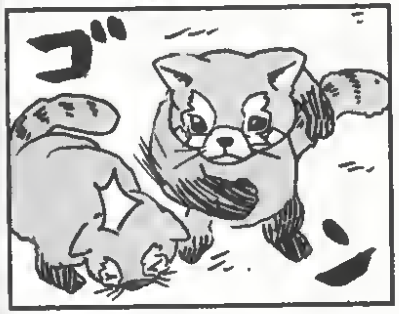
元祖猫麺

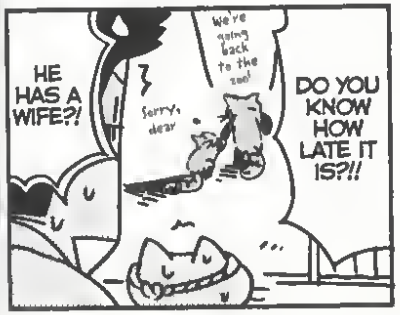
The Secret of Neko Noodles

Returning

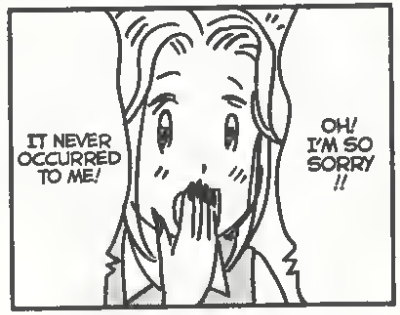


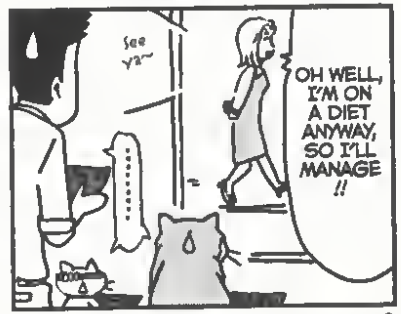


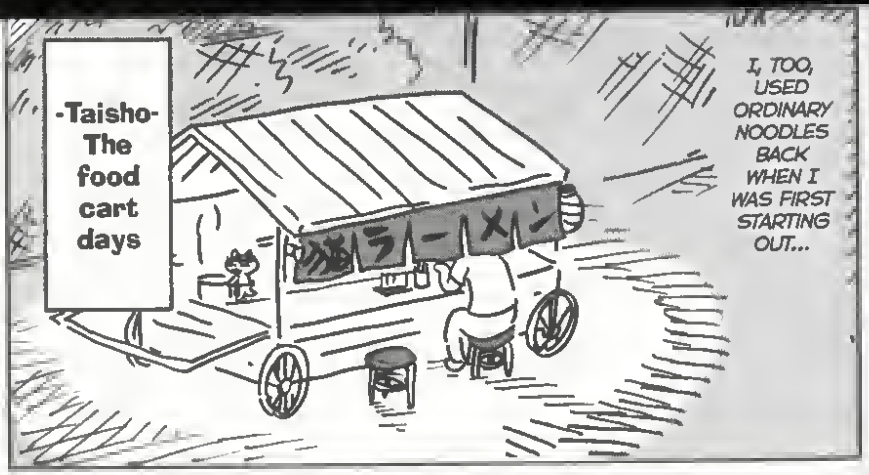


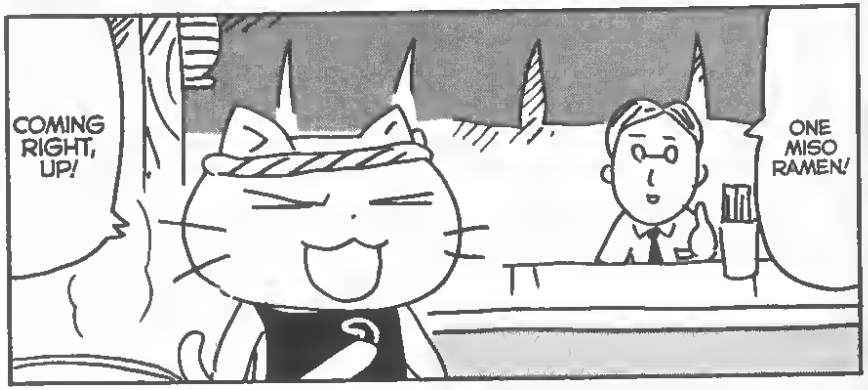


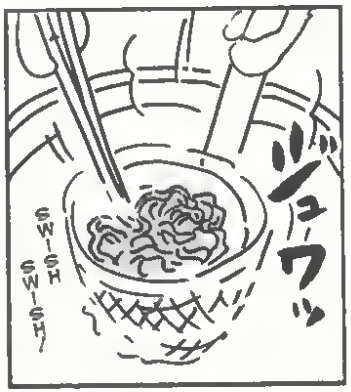
Diet

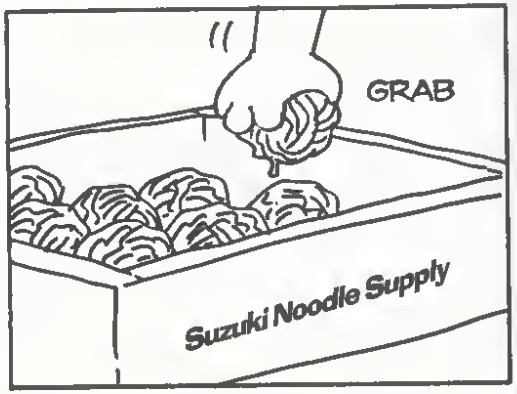






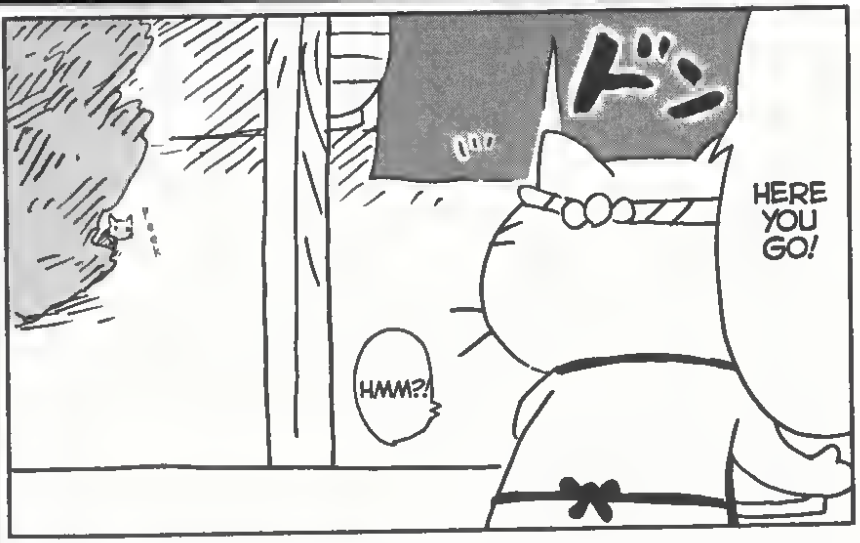


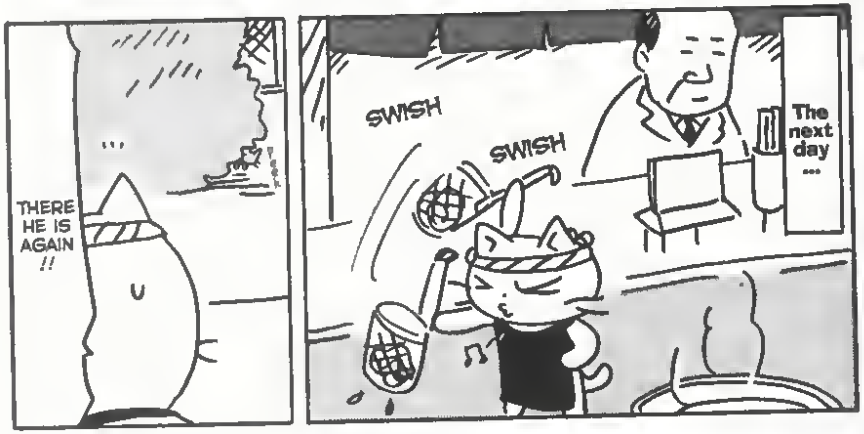


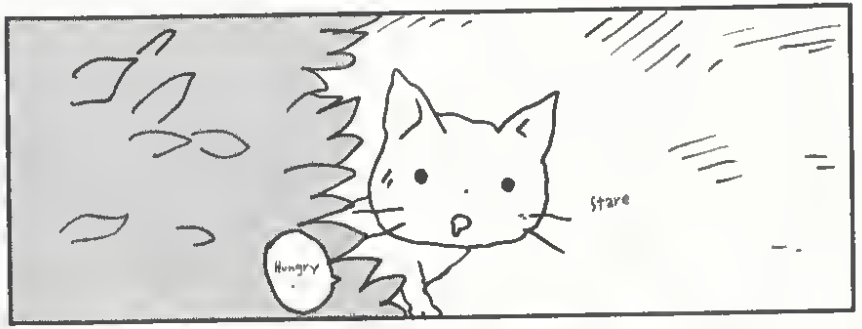


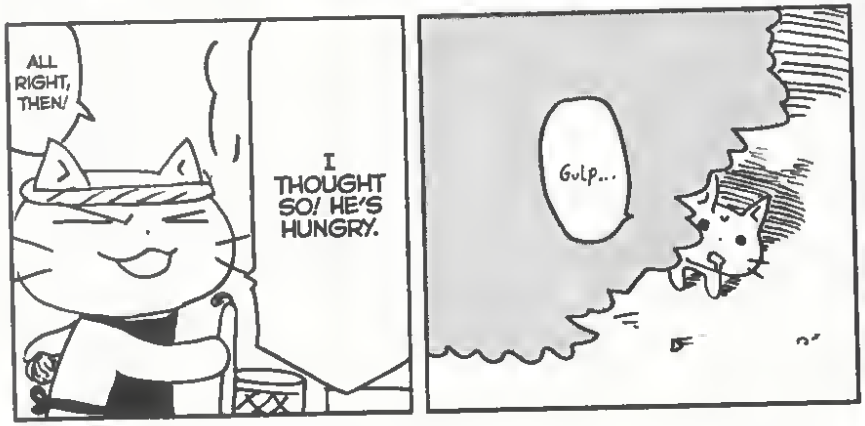
SIGN THE ORIGINAL NEKO NOODLES

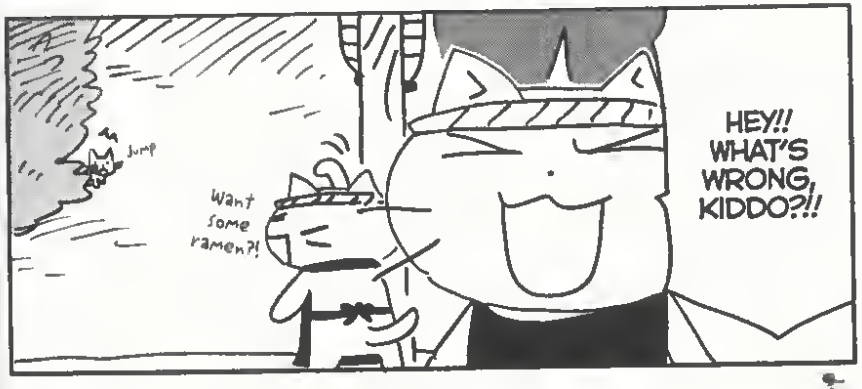
Weirdo...
WHAT'S WITH HIM?!
HUH ?!
タ゛

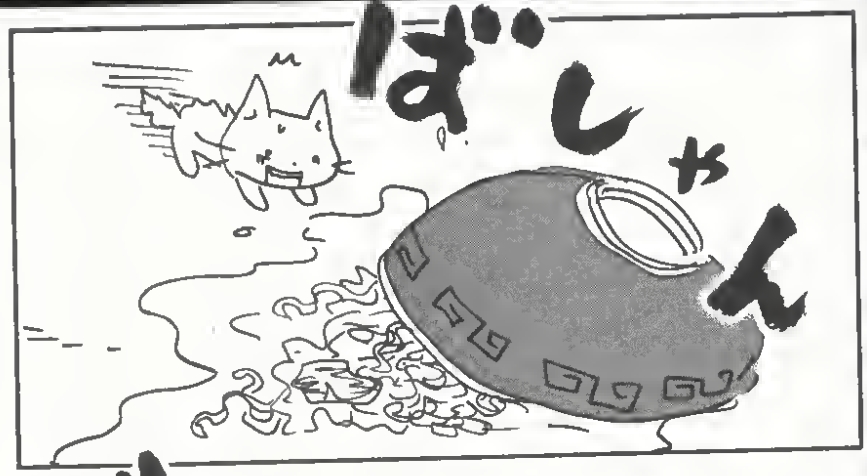

ドン
HERE YOU GO!
HMM?!


THERE HE IS AGAIN !!
SWISH
SWISH
The next day ...


Hungry
Stare


ALL RIGHT, THEN!
I THOUGHT SO! HE'S HUNGRY.
Gulp...

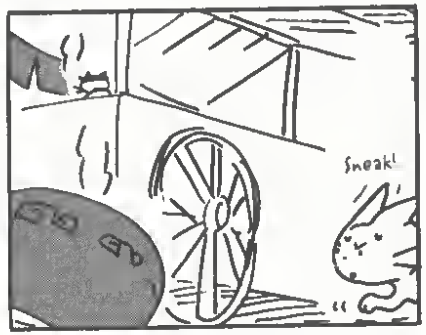

Jump
Want some ramen?!
HEY!! WHAT'S WRONG, KIDDO?!!


ばしゃん

ダッ
I'LL MAKE YOU ANOTHER ONE RIGHT NOW!
HEY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!

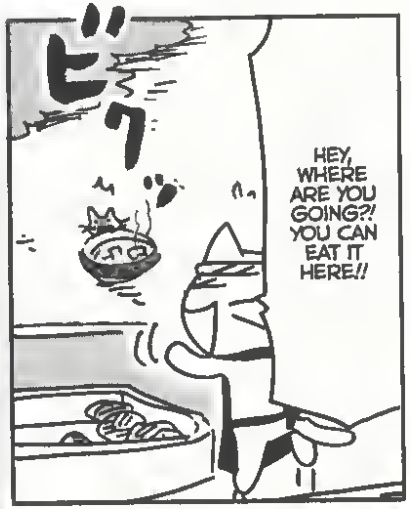
GRAB
GRAB

HERE HE COMES!

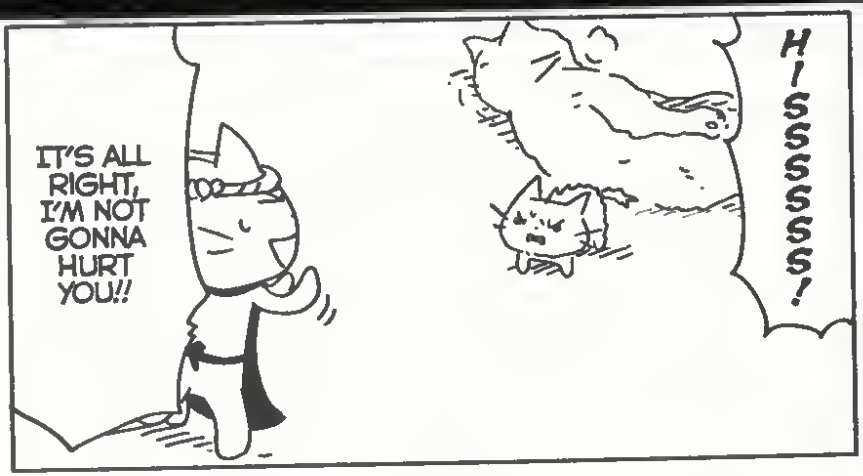

Sneak!

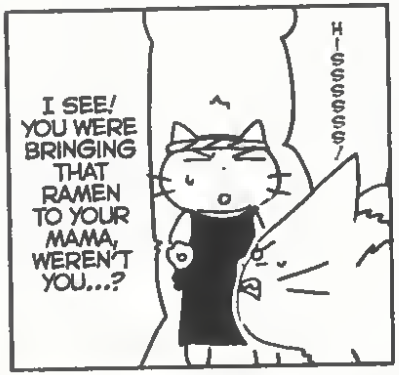
ARGH! WHICH WAY DID HE GO?!
RUSTLE
?!

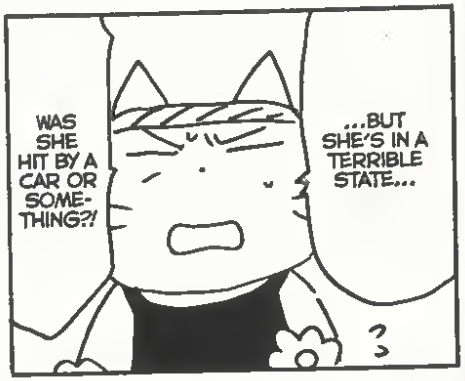
WAIT A MINUTE !!
WHY THE HELL DO YOU ALWAYS RUN AWAY LIKE THAT?!


ビク
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?! YOU CAN EAT IT HERE!!

DRAG
DRAG


IT'S ALL RIGHT, I'M NOT GONNA HURT YOU!!
HISSSSSS!

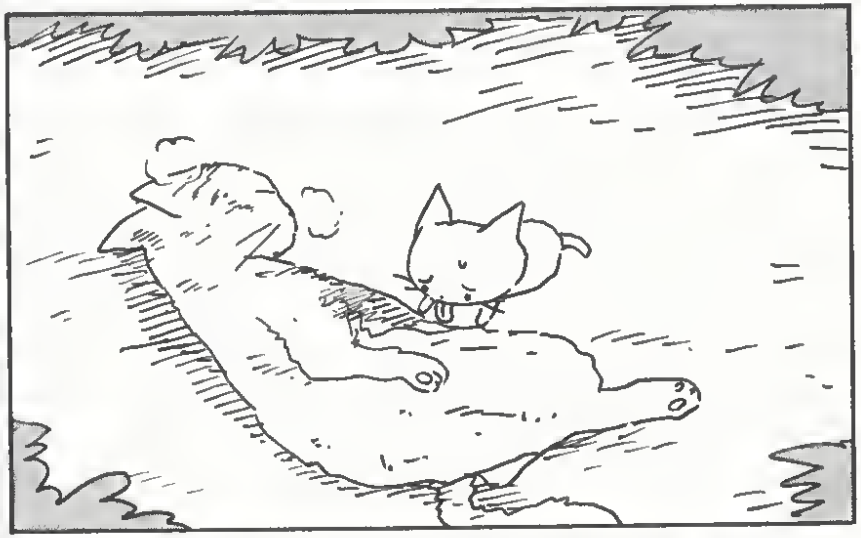

I SEE! YOU WERE BRINGING THAT RAMEN TO YOUR MAMA, WEREN'T YOU...?
HISSSSS!

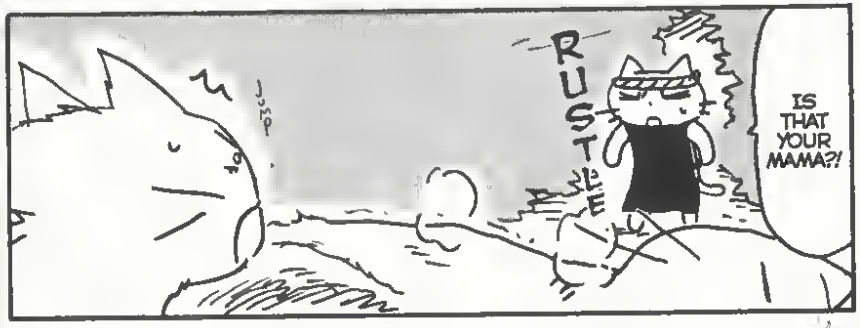

WAS SHE HIT BY A CAR OR SOME-THING?!
...BUT SHE'S IN A TERRIBLE STATE...

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!!
ALL RIGHTY THEN! YOU WAIT RIGHT THERE, YOU HEAR?!!

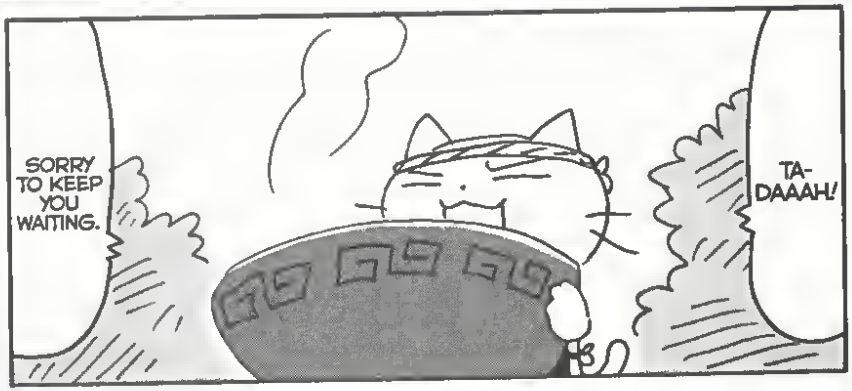
?!

THERE HE IS!

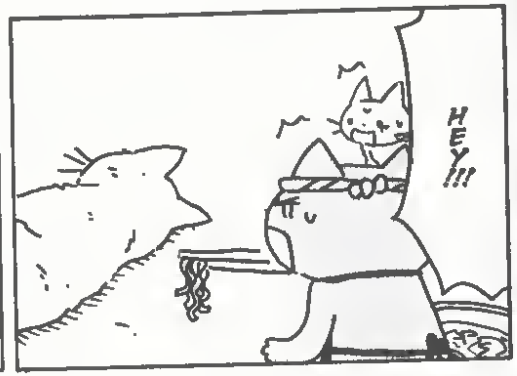


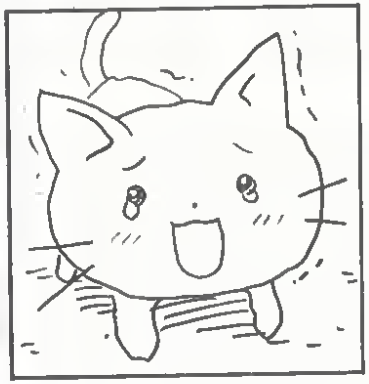

RUSTLE
IS THAT YOUR MAMA?!

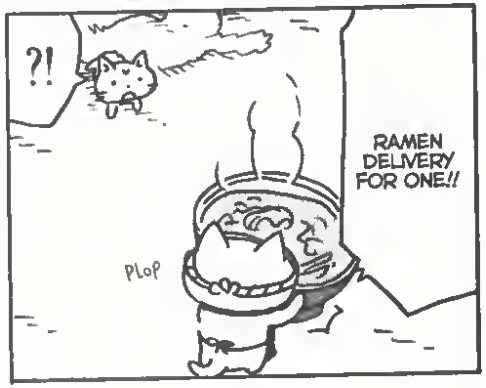
SLURP

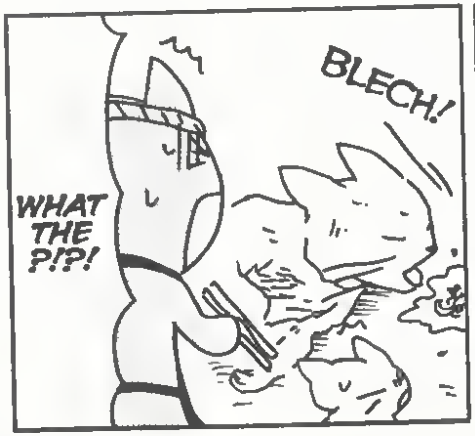

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
TA-DAAAH!

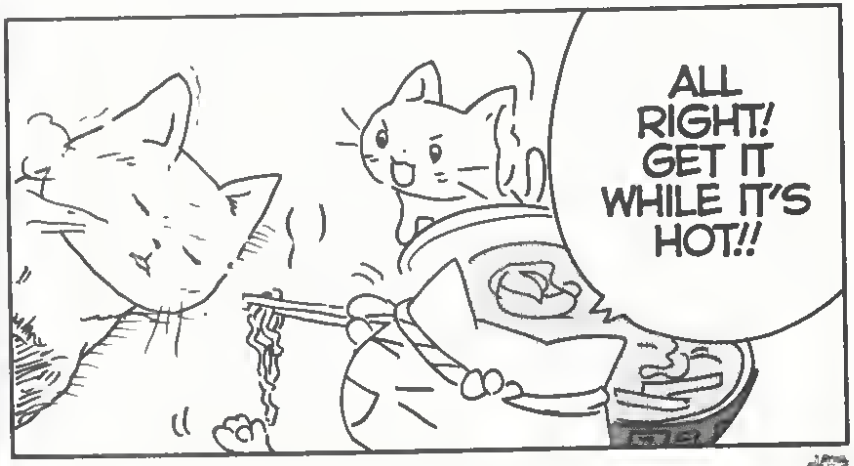
NO! YOU'VE GOT TO EAT AT LEAST A LITTLE OR YOU WON'T GET BETTER!


HEY!!!

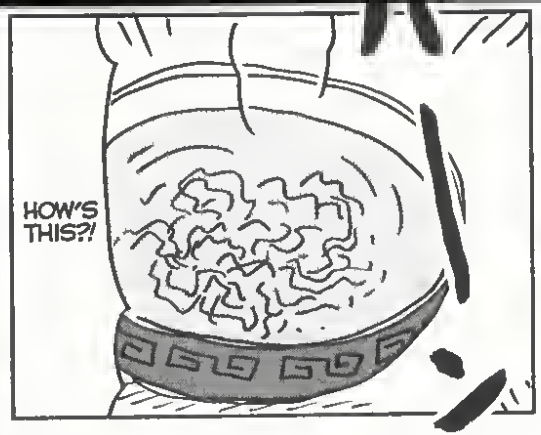



?!
RAMEN DELIVERY FOR ONE!!
PLOP

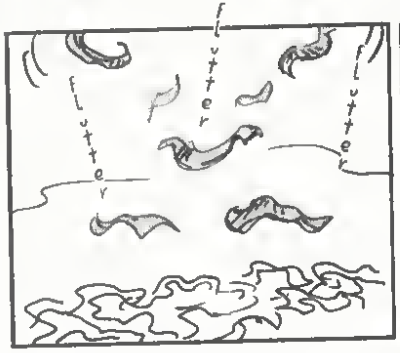

BLECH!
WHAT THE ?!?!

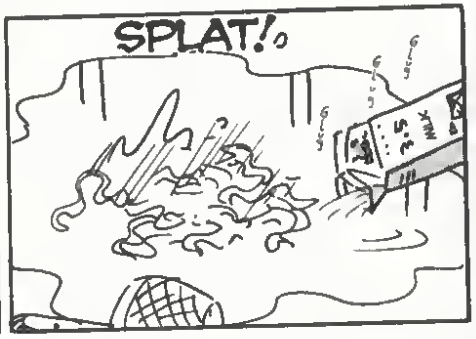

ALL RIGHT! GET IT WHILE IT'S HOT!!

3.5 MILK
TUNA FLAKES

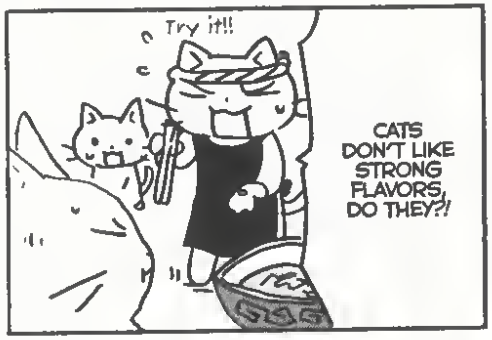

HOW'S THIS?!

FINE! WAIT RIGHT THERE!!

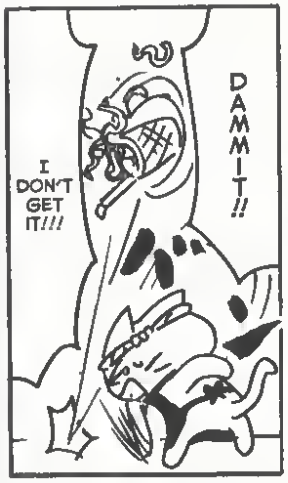

flutter
flutter
flutter

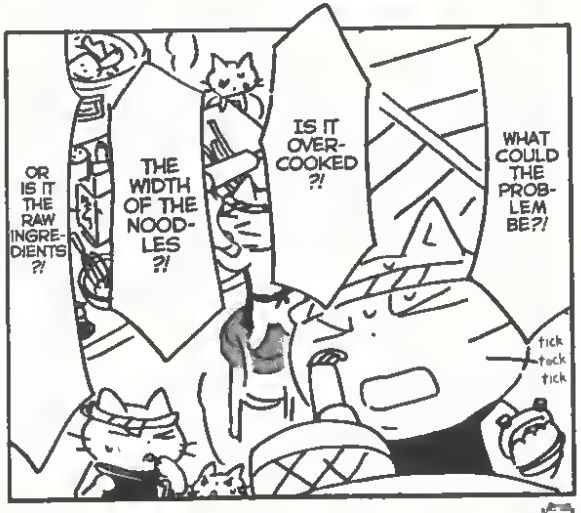

SPLAT!

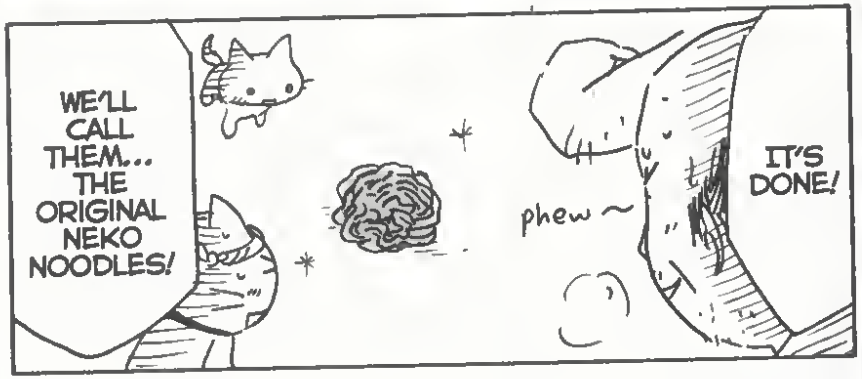
BLECH!
THAT'S NO GOOD EITHER ?!

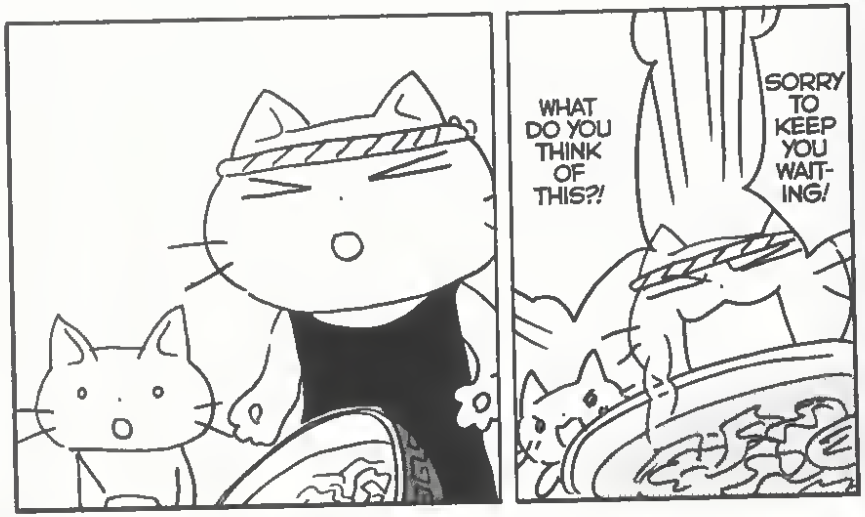

Try it!!
CATS DON'T LIKE STRONG FLAVORS, DO THEY?!

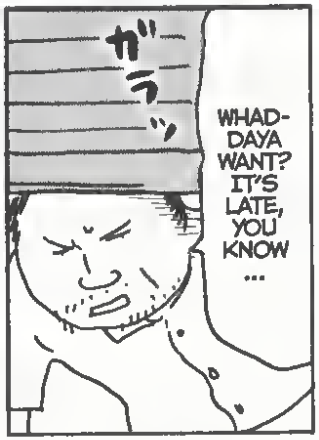
THAT'S IT!!


I DON'T GET IT!!!
DAMMIT!!

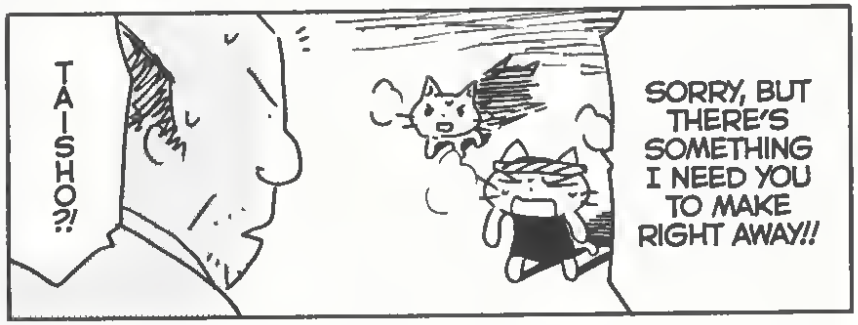

OR IS IT THE RAW INGREDIENTS ?!
THE WIDTH OF THE NOODLES ?!
IS IT OVER-COOKED ?!
WHAT COULD THE PROBLEM BE?!
tick tock tick

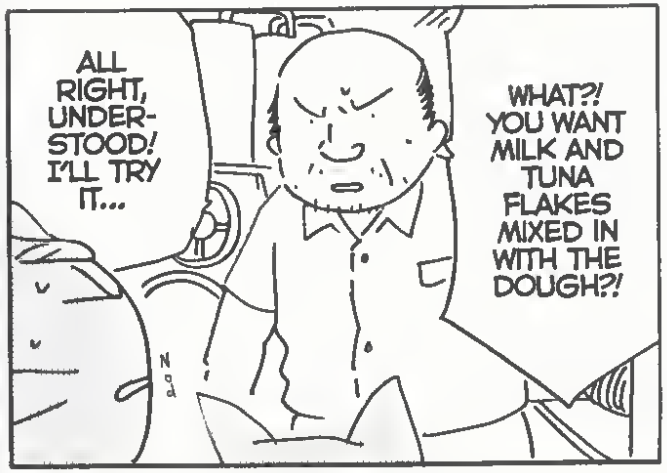

WE'LL CALL THEM... THE ORIGINAL NEKO NOODLES!
phew ~
IT'S DONE!


WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAIT-ING!


ガラッ
WHAD-DAYA WANT? IT'S LATE, YOU KNOW ...

Suzuki Ramen Supply
BANG
BANG
HEY MISTER! PLEASE!!
OPEN THE DOOR!!

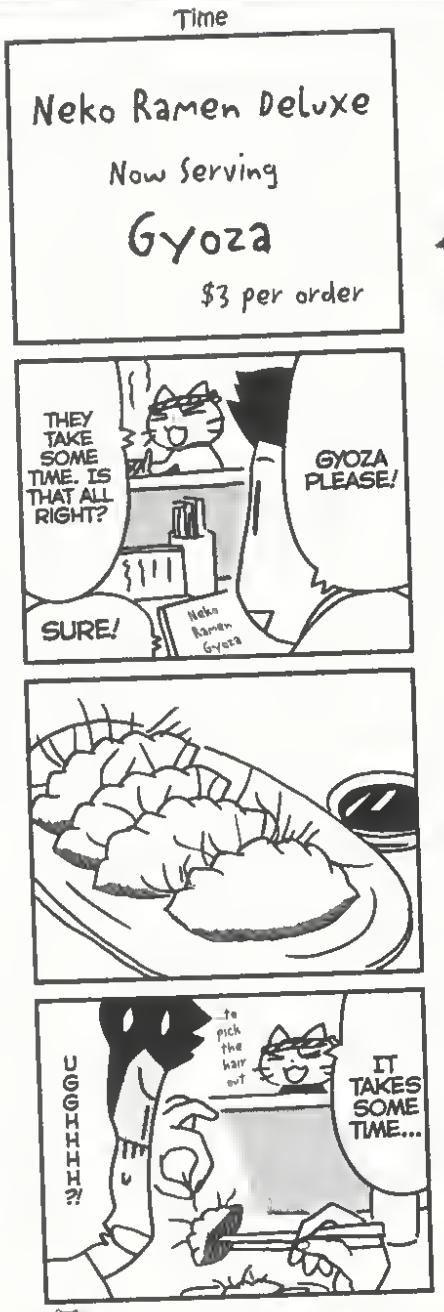

TAISHO?!
SORRY, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED YOU TO MAKE RIGHT AWAY!!

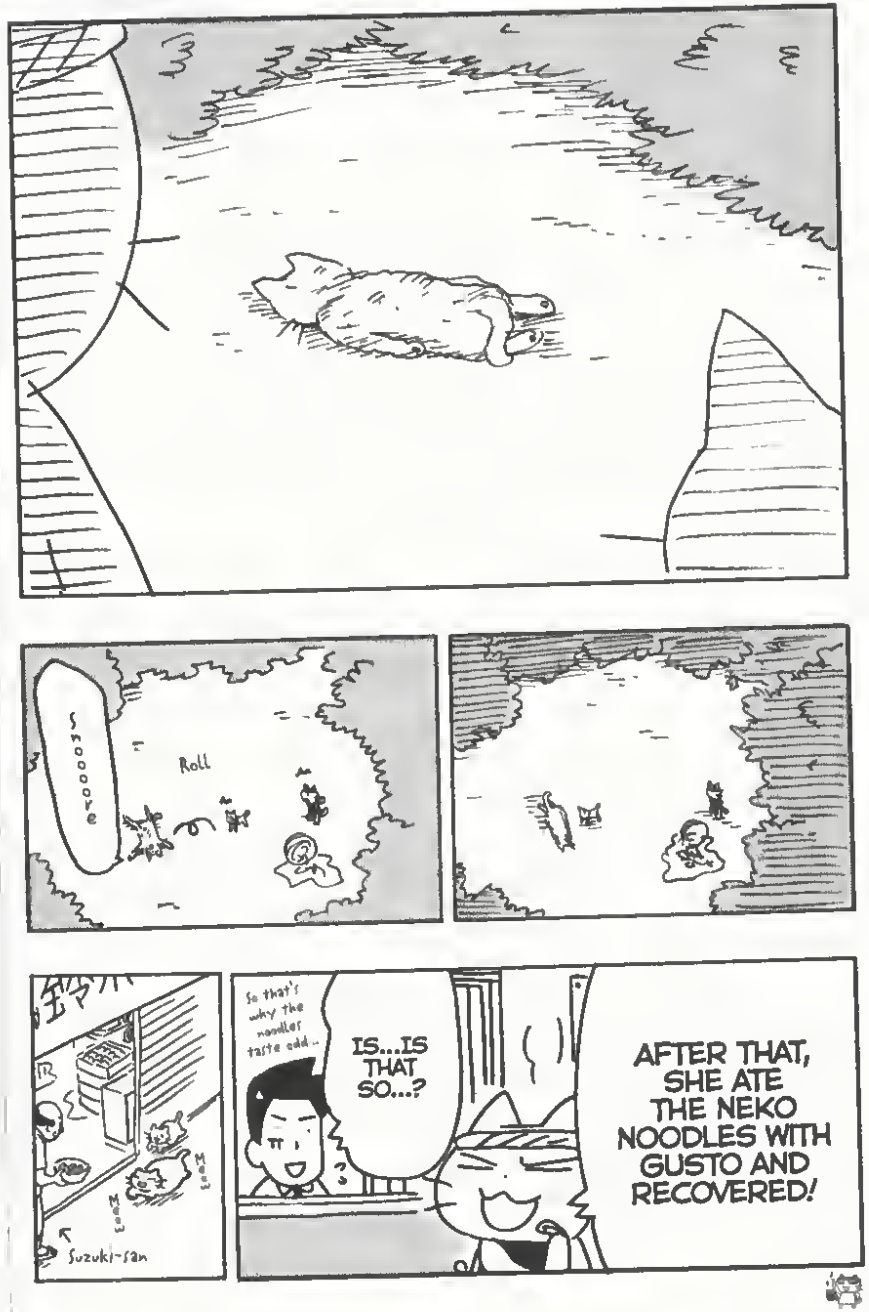

ALL RIGHT, UNDER-STOOD! I'LL TRY IT...
WHAT?! YOU WANT MILK AND TUNA FLAKES MIXED IN WITH THE DOUGH?!

3.5
Milk

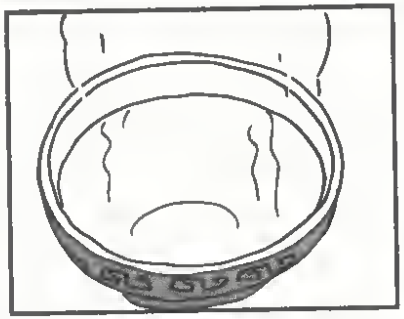
猫ラーメン

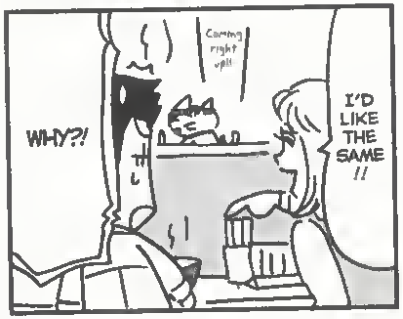
Chapter 9



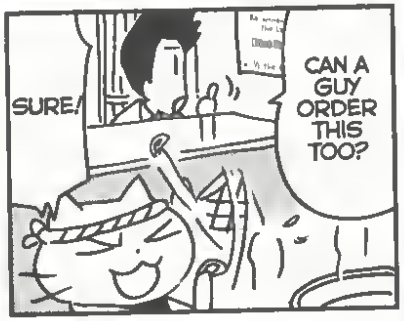

Sroooove
Roll
Suzuki-san
So that's why the noodles taste odd...
IS...IS THAT SO...?
AFTER THAT, SHE ATE THE NEKO NOODLES WITH GUSTO AND RECOVERED!

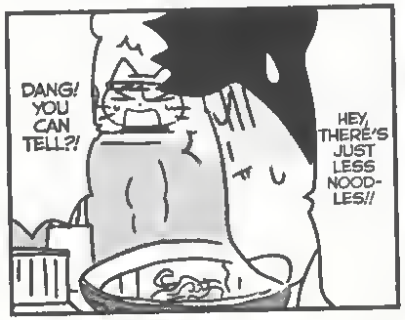
Zero Calories



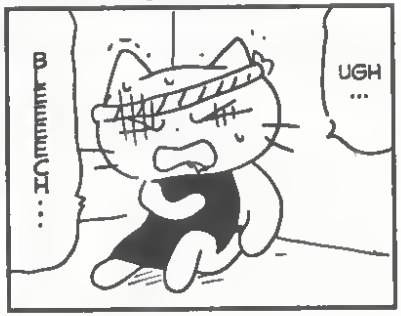


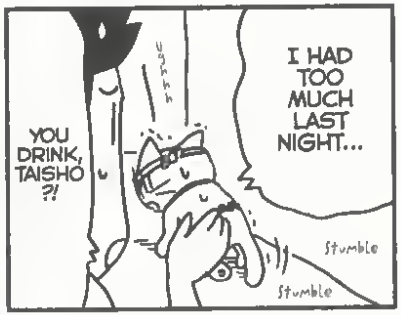
½

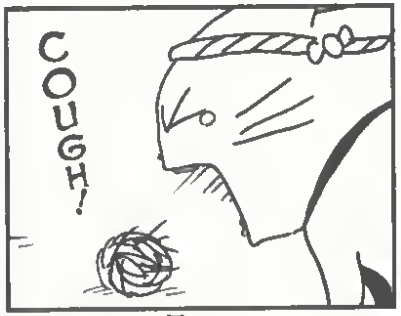


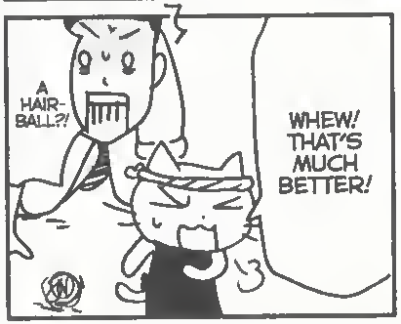


Overdid It

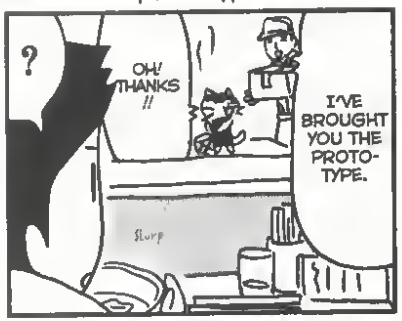


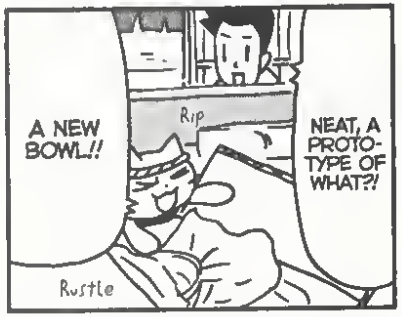


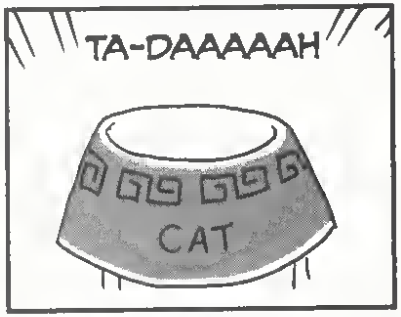




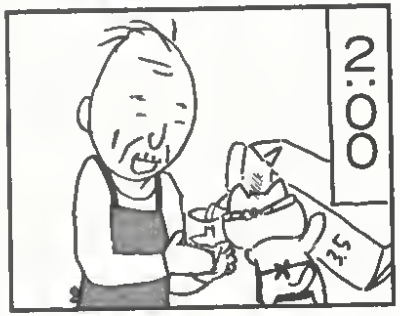
Prototype





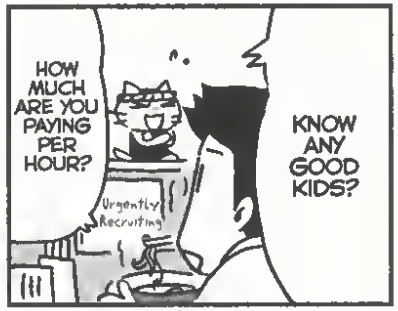


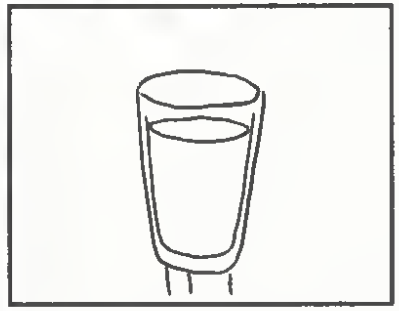
Hourly Wage



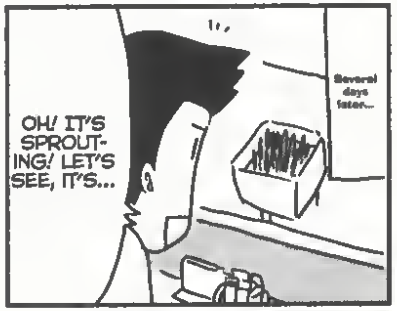
Toku-san

Part-Time Pay





What's That?



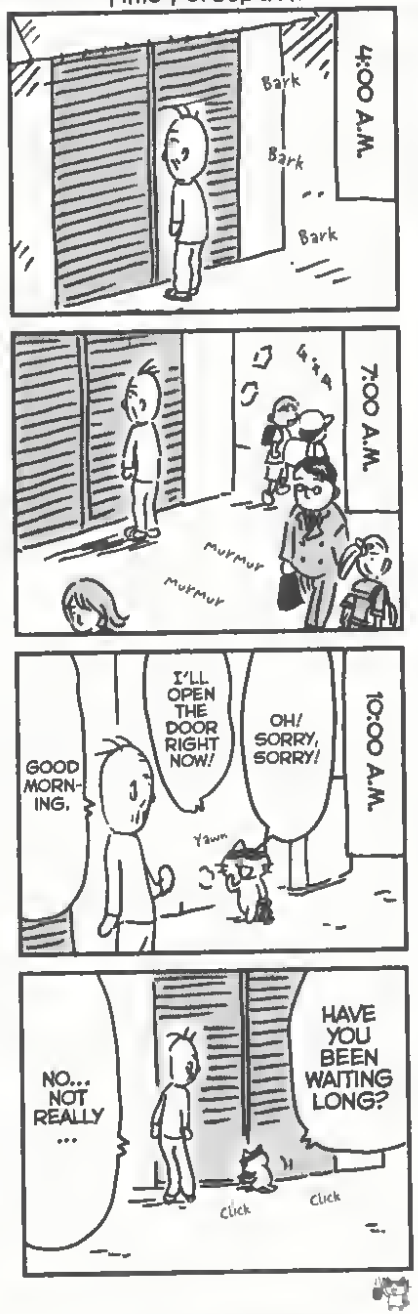
Senior Center

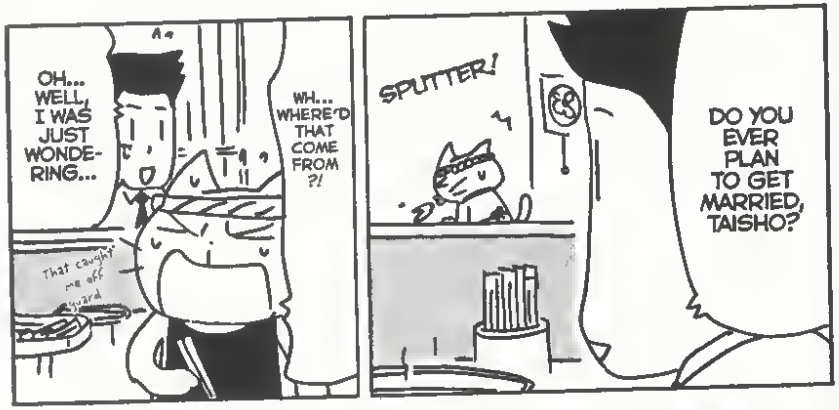
OH! THANKS FOR THE BUSI-NESS!
THESE ARE MY FRIENDS FROM THE SENIOR CENTER.
Same here!
One shot!
Mine!
MY DOCTOR TOLD ME TO WATCH MY INTAKE ...
HOLD THE SALT ON MINE!
Mine too
Same here
COULD YOU CUT UP MY NOODLES? MY DENTURES AREN'T TOO GOOD.
NO OIL IN MINE!
Same here!
Same here!
AAAAAAAH!!!
COOL MINE DOWN FOR ME?
EXTRA BOWL, PLEASE! I'M GOING TO SPLIT MY ORDER WITH TOME-SAN.
Same here!
Me too!

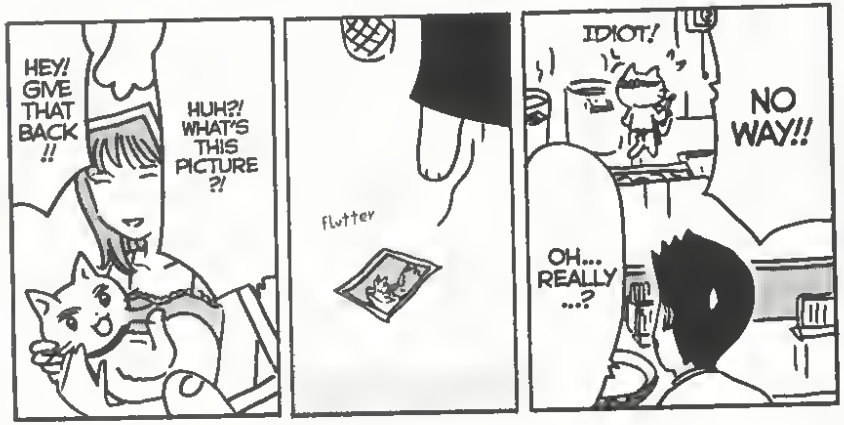
Yo! Toku-san!

Advisors

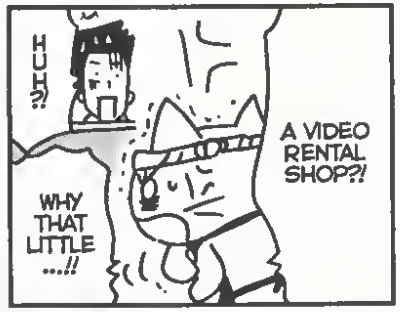
Time Perception

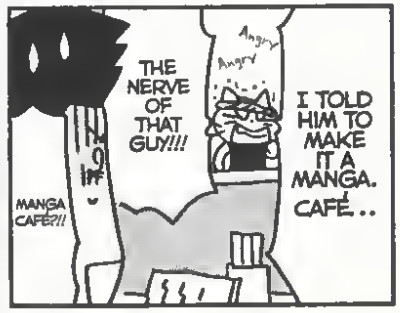



OH... WELL, I WAS JUST WONDERING...
That caught me off guard
WH... WHERE'D THAT COME FROM?!
SPLUTTER!
DO YOU EVER PLAN TO GET MARRIED, TAISHO?

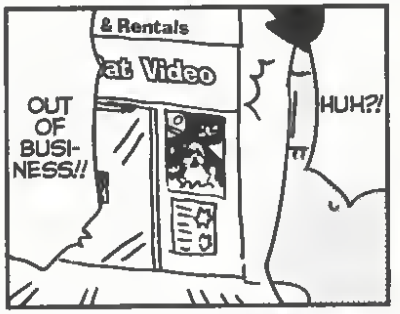


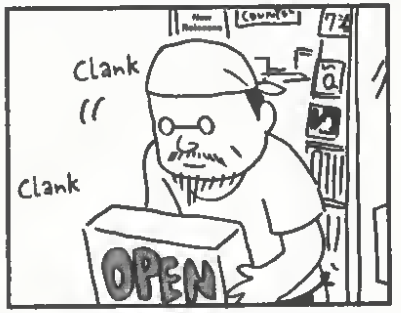
A Surprise

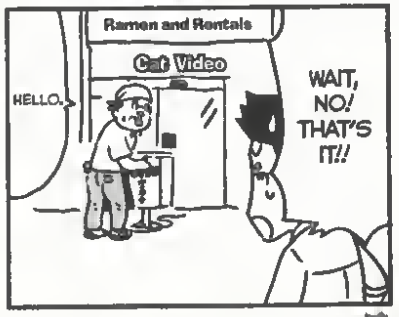


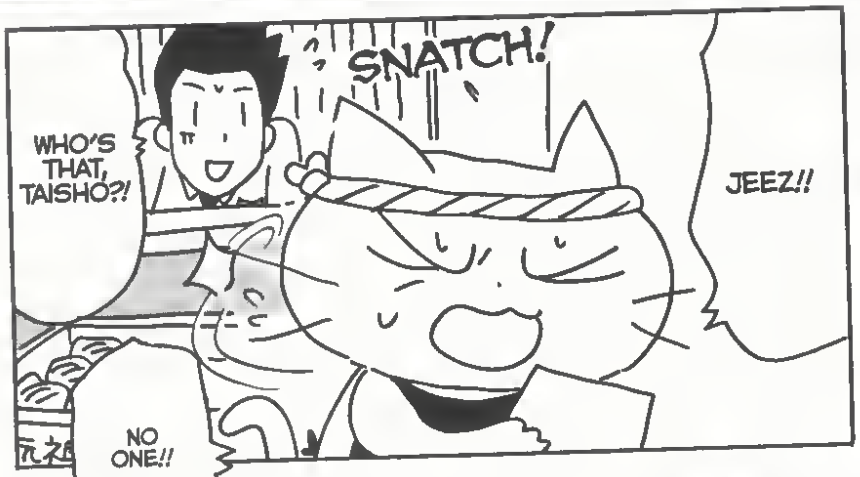


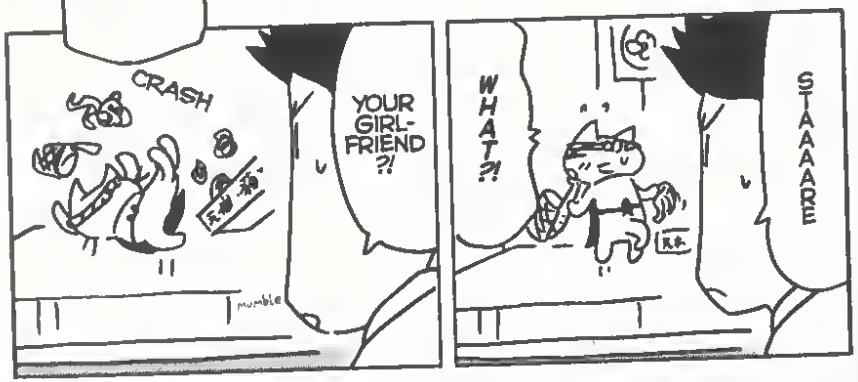
The Second Location

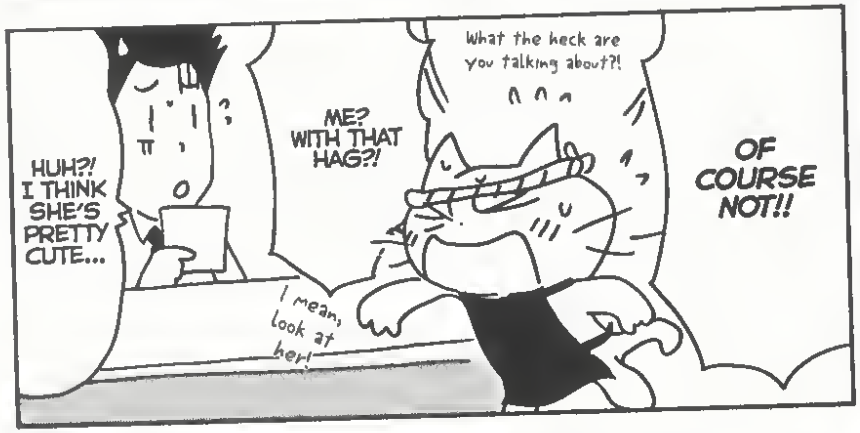






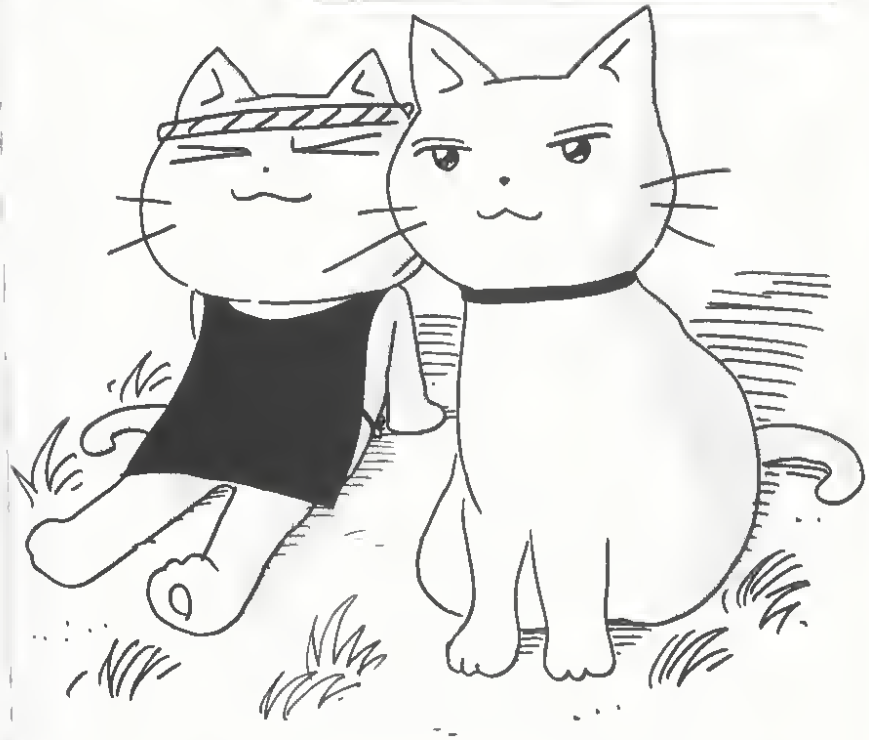




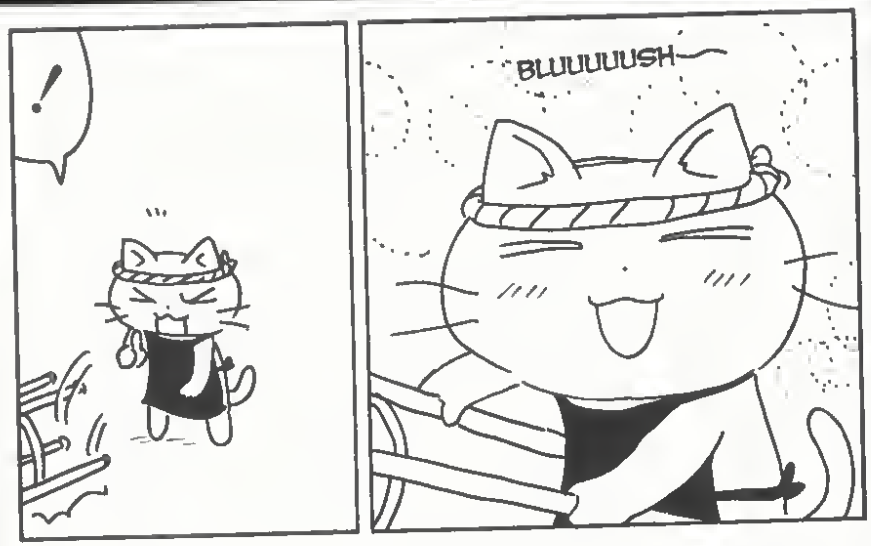


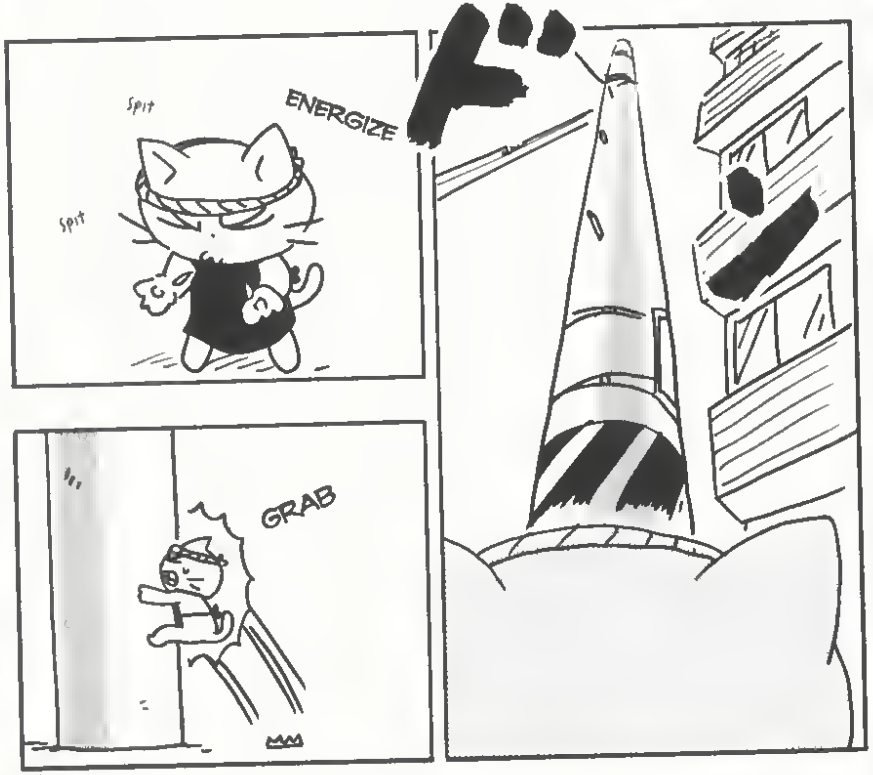
猫ラーメン

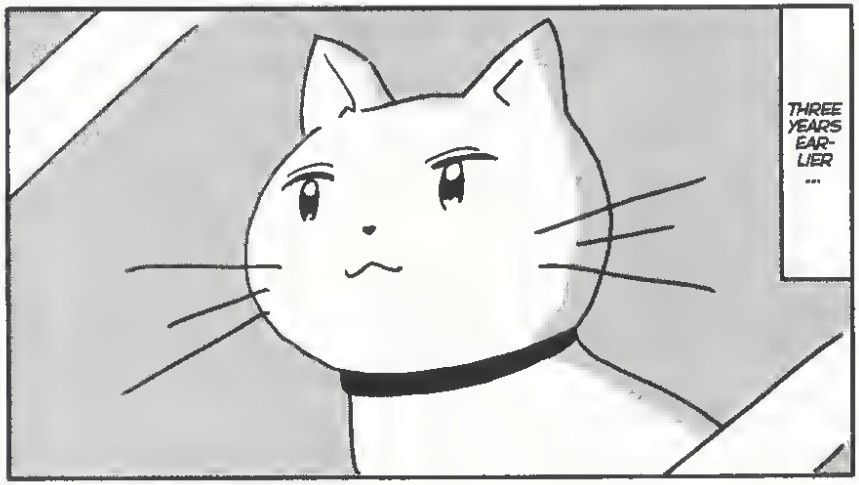
Short Comic Special

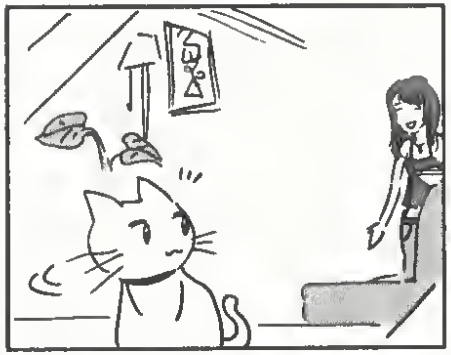


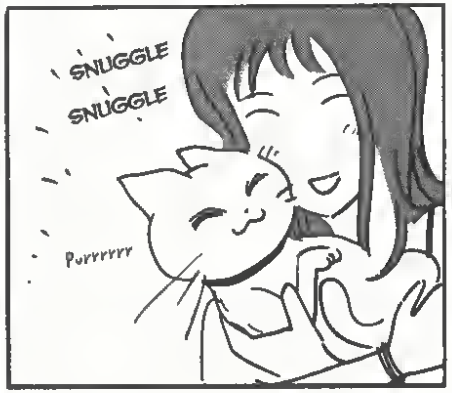
Taisho's Love

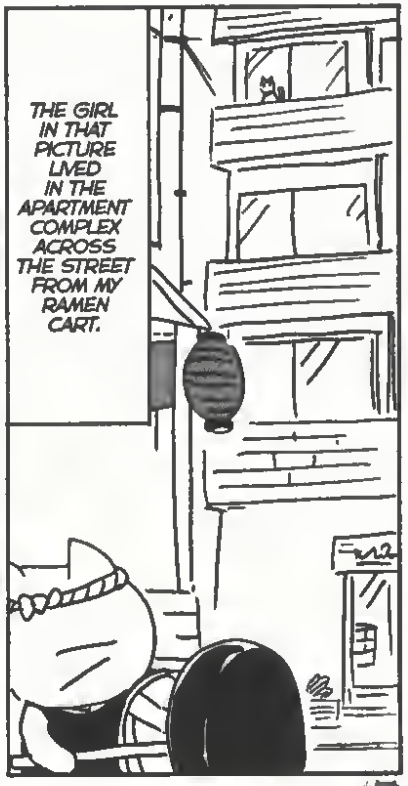

!
BLUUUUUSH

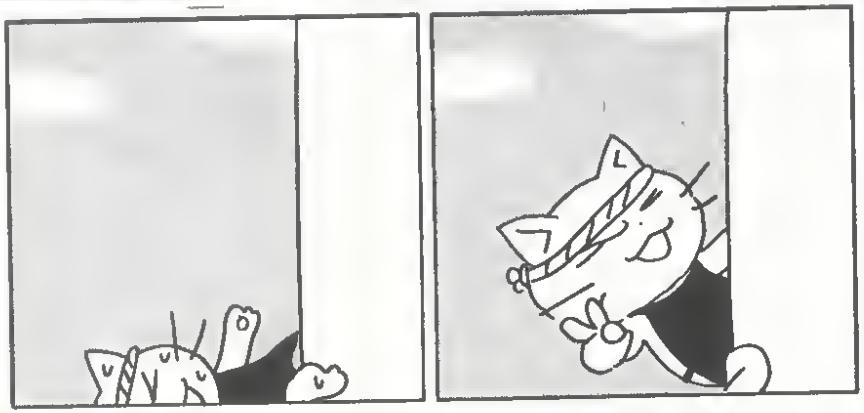

Spit
Spit
ENERGIZE
ド
GRAB


THREE YEARS EARLIER ...

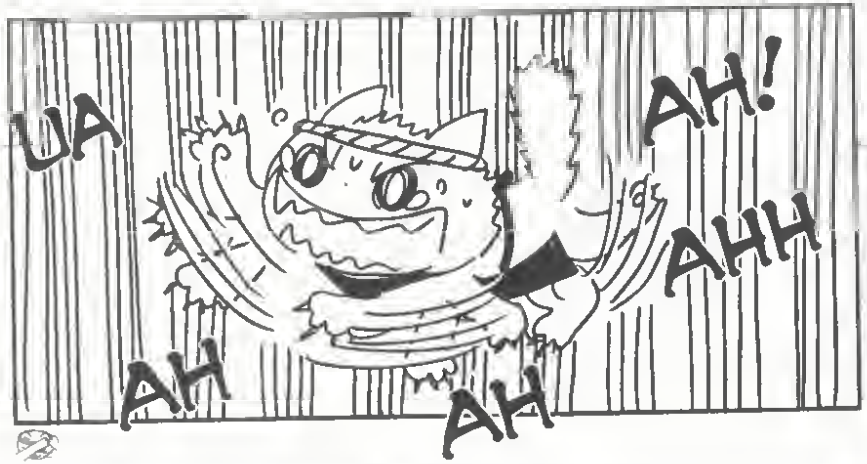


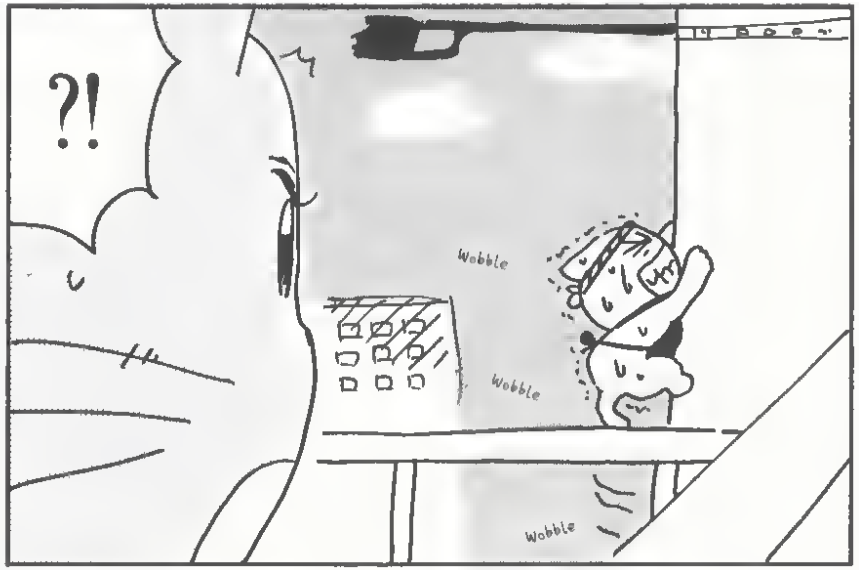

SNUGGLE
SNUGGLE
Purrrrrr

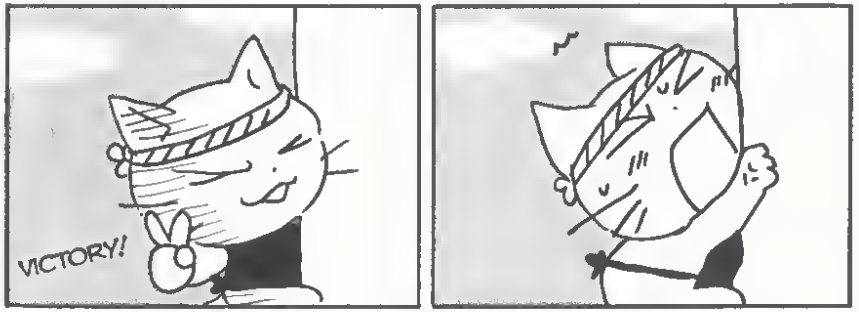

THE GIRL IN THAT PICTURE LIVED IN THE APARTMENT COMPLEX ACROSS THE STREET FROM MY RAMEN CART.

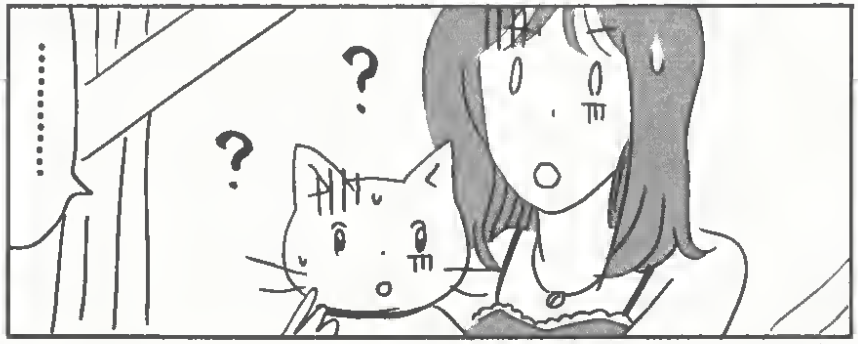


AAAAH!

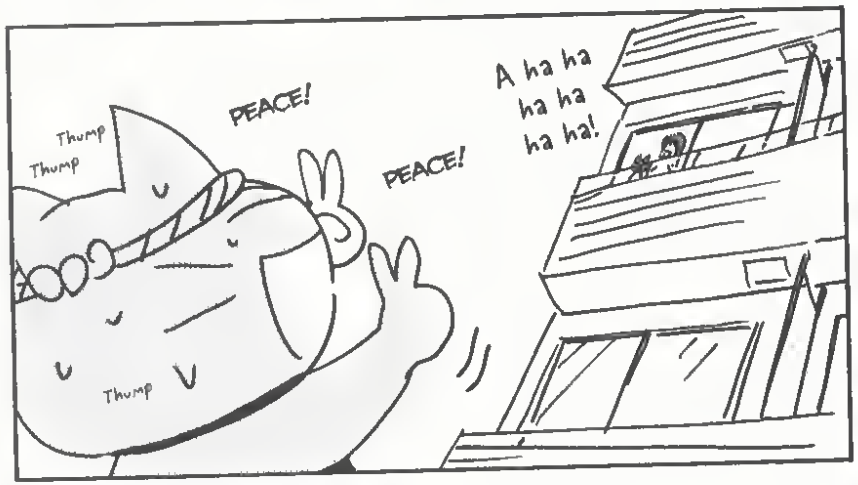

UA
AH!
AHH
AH
AH


?!
Wobble
Wobble
Wobble

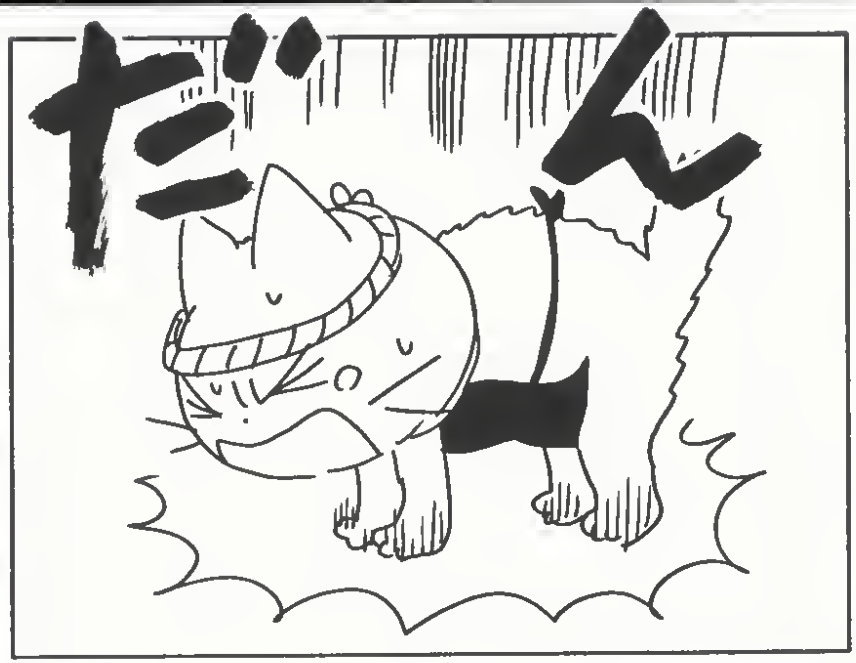

VICTORY!


.....
?
?

Pfft!


Thump
Thump
Thump
PEACE!
PEACE!
A ha ha
ha ha
ha ha!

Vroooooom
THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED WERE TRULY HAPPY ONES.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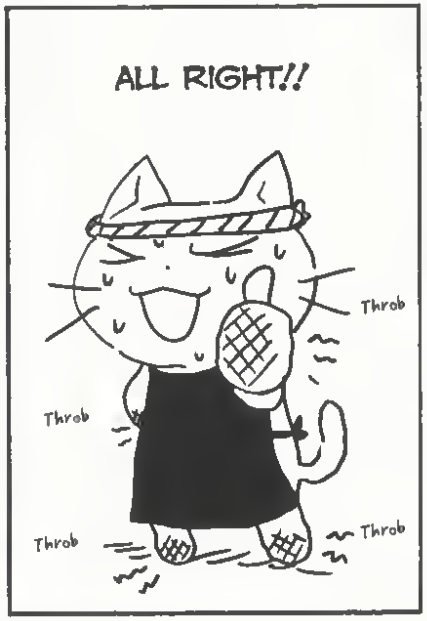
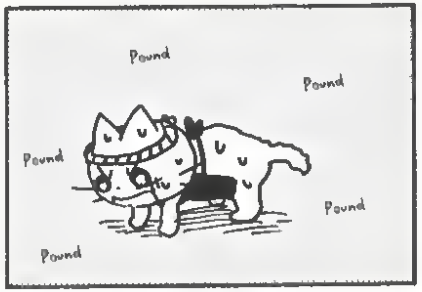

ALL RIGHT!!
Throb
Throb
Throb
Throb


Pound
Pound
Pound
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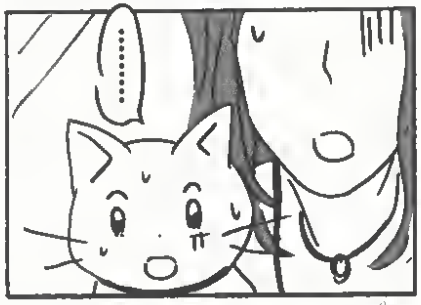
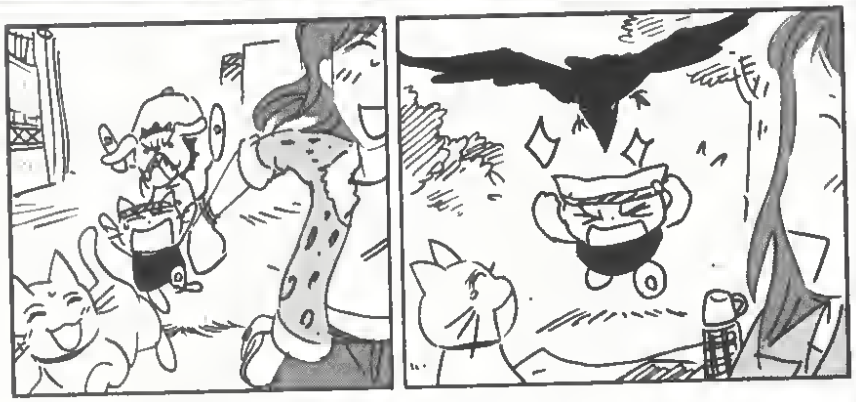
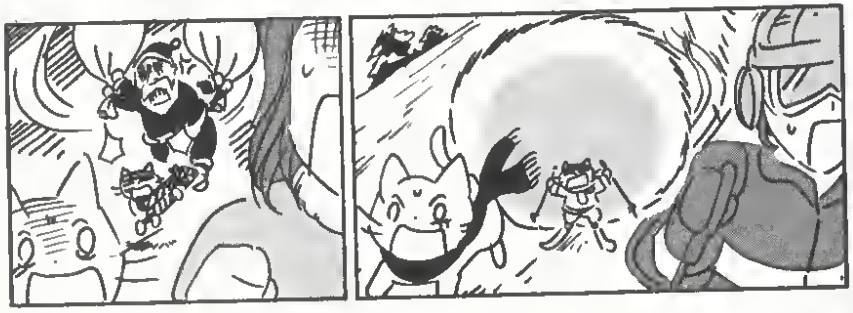
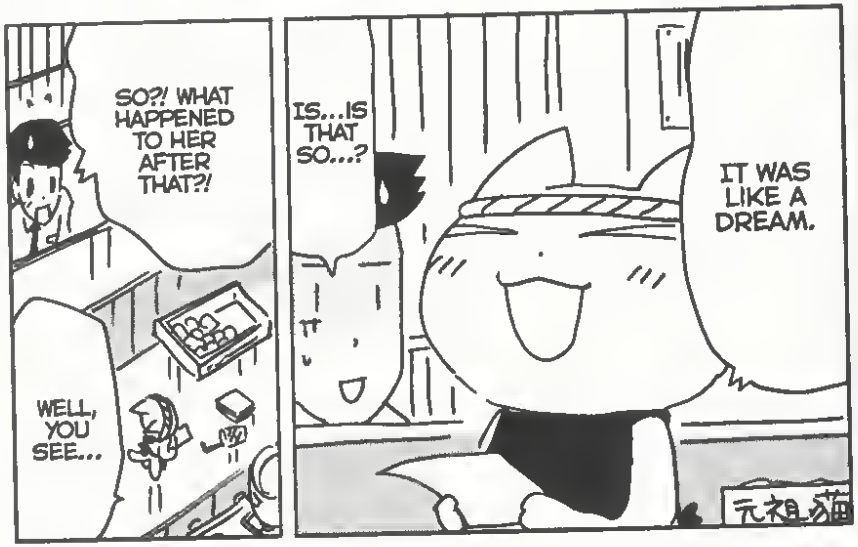
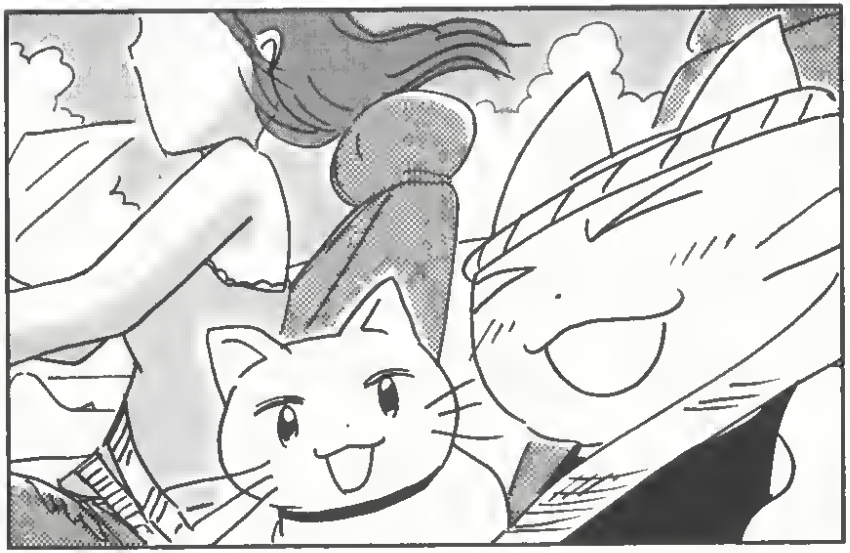
Pound

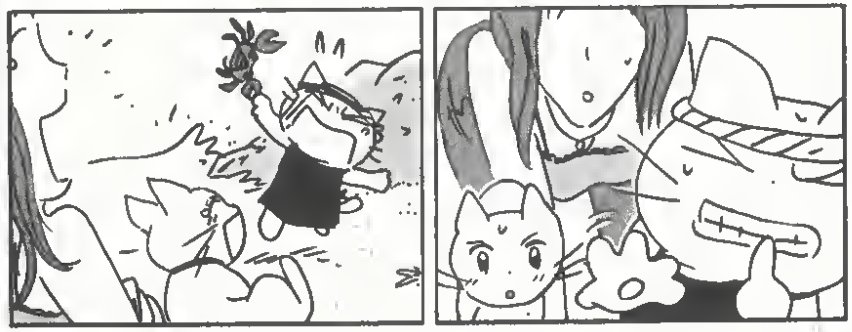


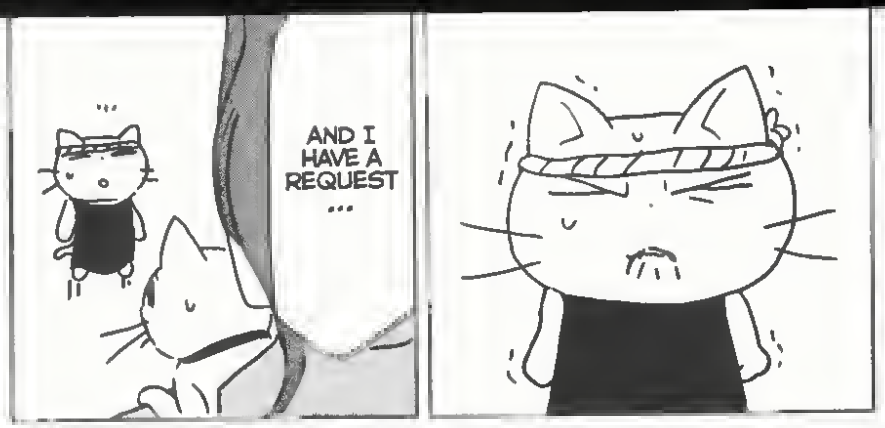


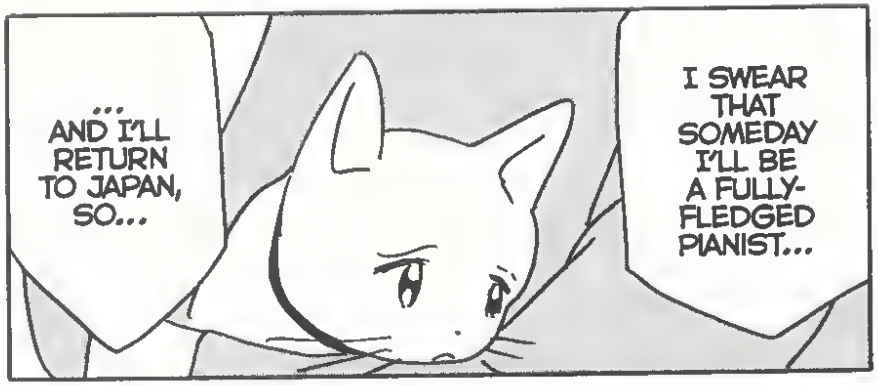


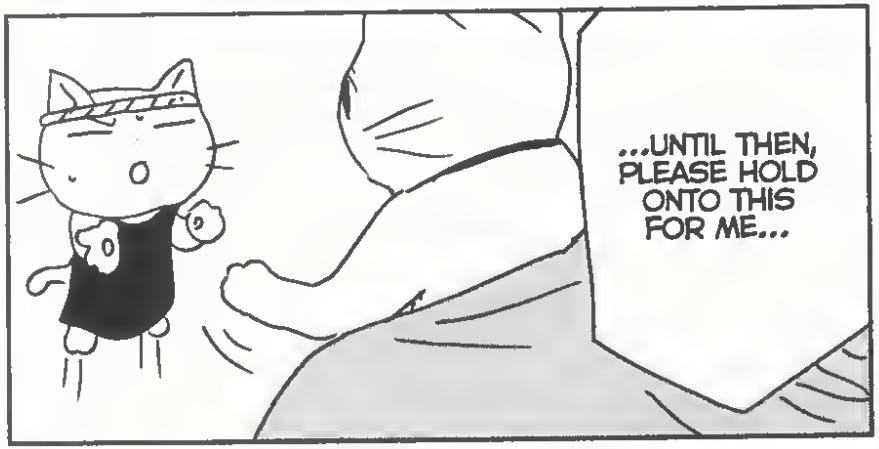

SO?! WHAT HAPPENED TO HER AFTER THAT?!
WELL, YOU SEE...
IS...IS THAT SO...?
IT WAS LIKE A DREAM.
元祖猫



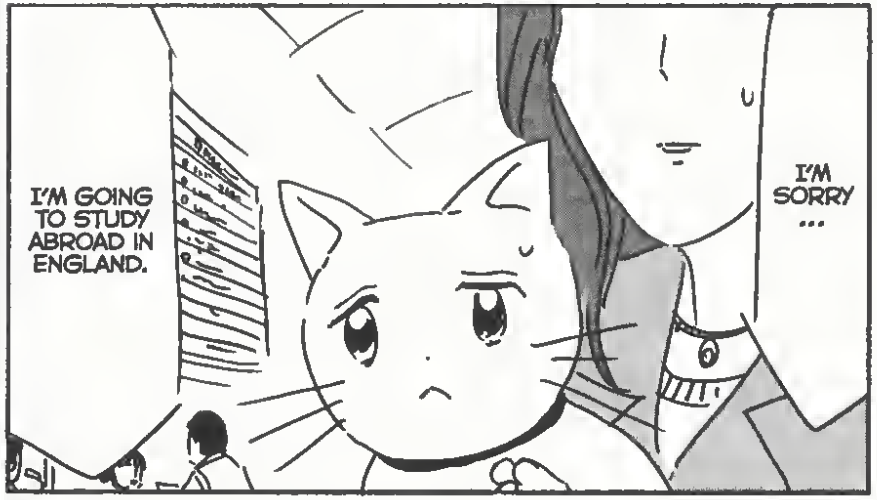



...
AND I HAVE A REQUEST ...


...AND I'LL RETURN TO JAPAN, SO...
I SWEAR THAT SOMEDAY I'LL BE A FULLY-FLEDGED PIANIST...

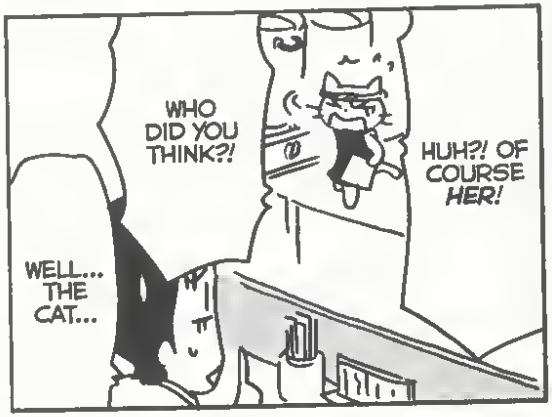

...UNTIL THEN, PLEASE HOLD ONTO THIS FOR ME...

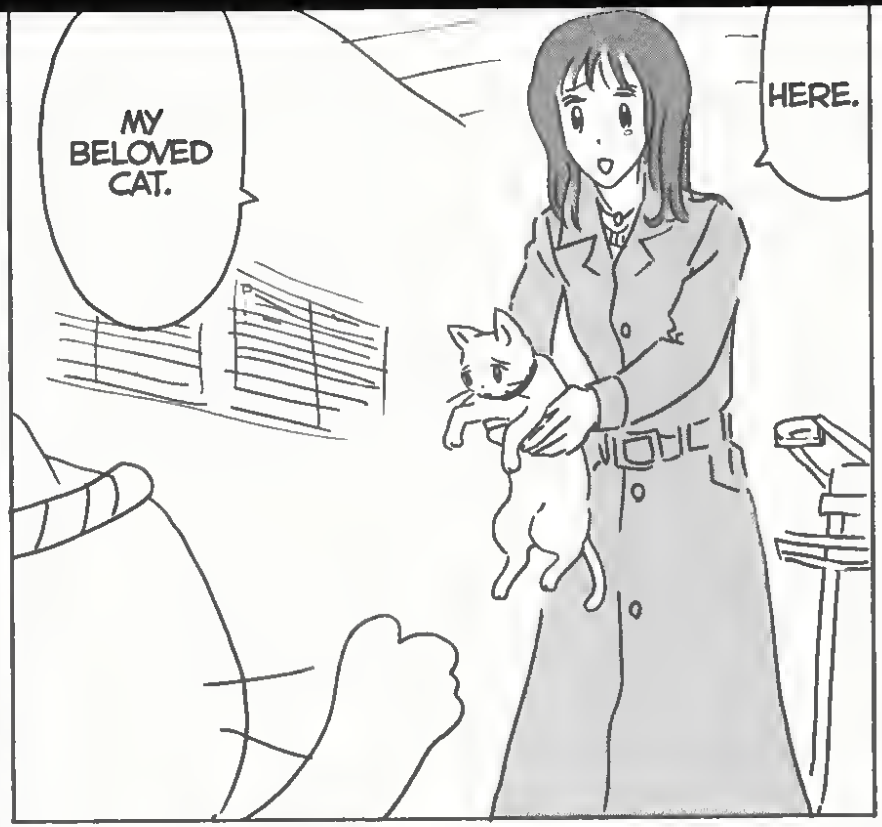
JAN
APR

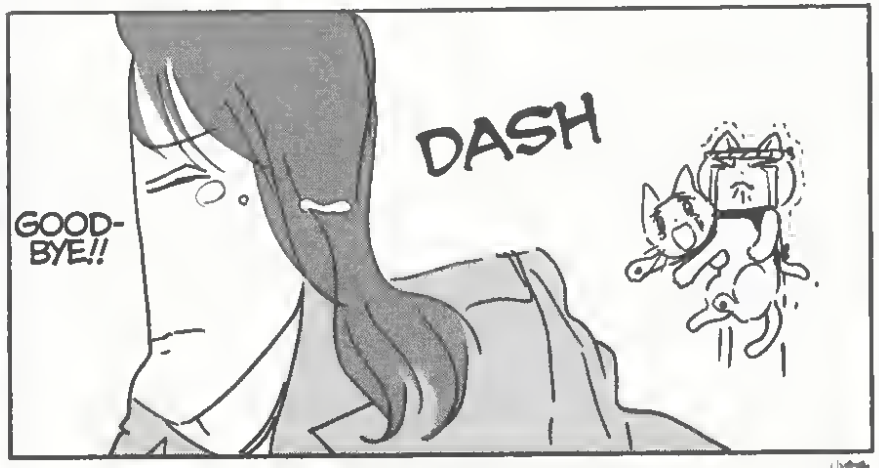

I'M GOING TO STUDY ABROAD IN ENGLAND.
I'M SORRY ...

HER?!
MIKI-CHAN...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHY...?
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?! WHY THE HECK WOULD I BE WITH A CAT?!
A ha ha ha ha!


WELL... THE CAT...
WHO DID YOU THINK?!
HUH?! OF COURSE HER!


MY BELOVED CAT.
HERE.

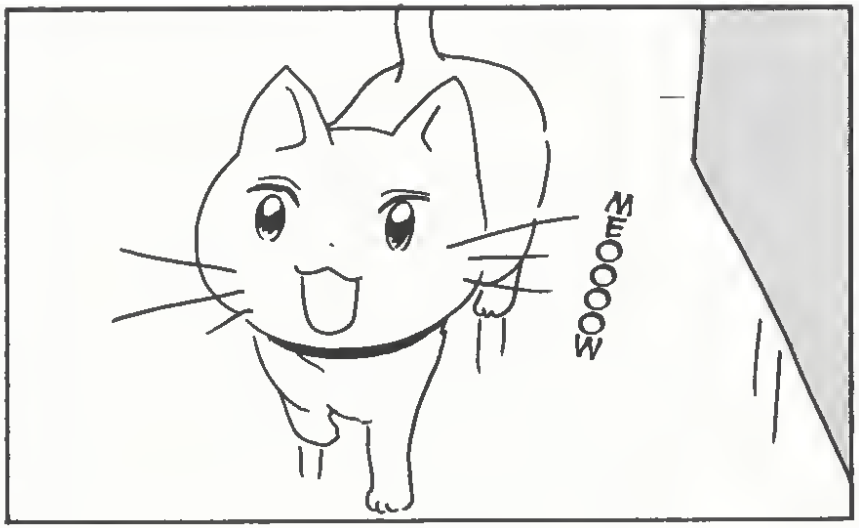

GOOD-BYE!!
DASH

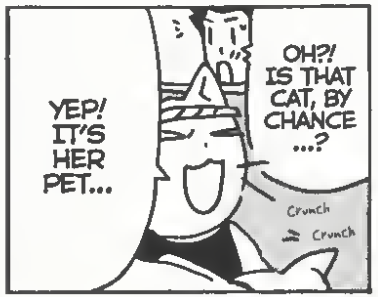
Special Supplement

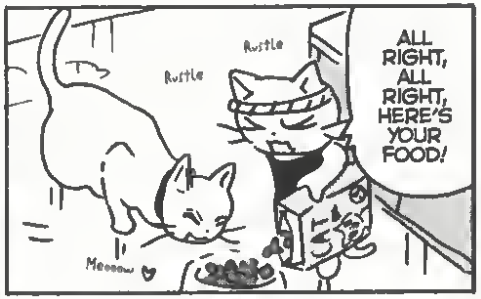
THIS IS TAISHO!!

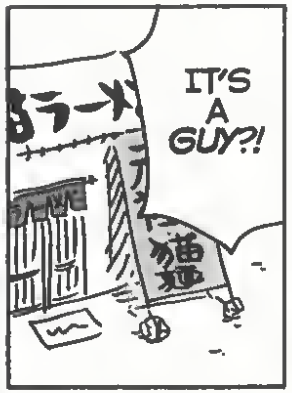
- Real Name: William Thomas Jefferson III
- Commonly Known As: Taisho
- Breed: American Shorthair
- Blood Type: A?
- Birthday: February 22nd
- Birthplace: Downtown Tokyo
- Hobbies: Shopping online, television shopping
- Residence: Lives alone in an apartment in the park a couple minutes walk from the shop. Currently looking into purchasing a high-rise condo in the near future.

- A memorable headband given to him by his mentor. (Has two others.)
- Soft contact lenses. (Custom made)
- Height: About 2'
- Weight: About 13 lbs
- Carefully selected Kurashiki-navy apron (purchased online)
- Shoe Size: About 1"









IN THE NEXT VOLUME OF...

Kenji Sonishi's

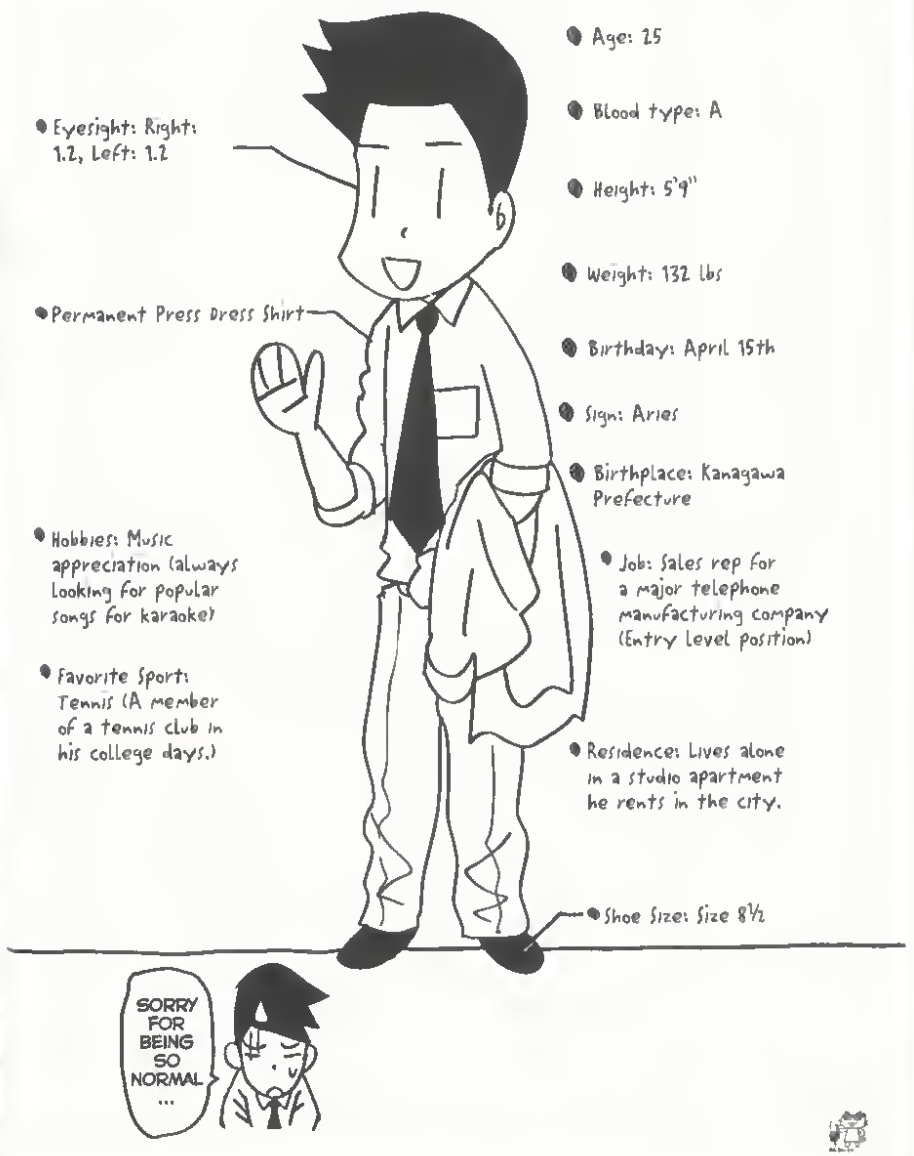
Neko Ramen

猫ラーメン

LOOK OUT FOR MORE OUTRAGEOUS RAMEN RECIPES AS TAISHO TRIES EVERY GIMMICK IN THE BOOK IN ORDER TO MAKE HIS RESTAURANT THE MOST SUCCESSFUL CAT-RUN BUSINESS EVER! NOT ONLY ARE THEIR FRENCH CHEFS, CURRY, FORTUNE-TELLERS AND COOKING COMPETITIONS, BUT TAISHO'S MOTHER COMES TO VISIT AND EXPOSES TAISHO'S MOST EMBARRASSING SECRET! WHAT OTHER CRAZY SCHEME WILL TAISHO COOK UP NEXT?

And...

THIS IS TANAKA-SAN!!


Real Name: Koichi Tanaka
Age: 25
Blood type: A
Height: 5'9"
Weight: 132 lbs
Birthday: April 15th
Sign: Aries
Birthplace: Kanagawa Prefecture
Job: Sales rep for a major telephone manufacturing company (Entry level position)
Residence: Lives alone in a studio apartment he rents in the city.
Shoe Size: Size 8½
Eyesight: Right: 1.2, Left: 1.2
Permanent Press Dress Shirt
Hobbies: Music appreciation (always looking for popular songs for karaoke)
Favorite Sport: Tennis (A member of a tennis club in his college days.)
SORRY FOR BEING SO NORMAL ...

CS: Would you say that Tanaka-san is a reflection of yourself?

KS: In a sense, yes. I was once a "salary-man" when I was about his age. I did it for 10 years, and I have to admit there are some resemblances.

Note: Salary-man = Japanese business man.

CS: Who is a better worker, Shige-chan or Mii-chan?

KS: (Laughs) Mii-chan's a better worker for sure. There are customers who come to Neko Ramen just to see her. Shige-chan--not so much. People won't come by just to see him. Plus, he steals stuff.

CS: Will Taisho ever go back to modeling?

KS: Most likely not.

CS: Not even as a ramen model?

KS: He's pretty traumatized by the whole experience.

CS: But he wants to make his own line of cup ramen. Doesn't he want to put his face on it?

KS: Taisho doesn't really understand himself. If he gets his own line of cup ramen, he'll think that since it's Neko Ramen, he'll have to go out and hire a cat model. He doesn't realize to use himself.

CS: Do you think he'll hire his dad?

KS: No way, his dad will charge too much.

CS: Speaking of which, how much does Taisho's dad make?

KS: As much as a successful Hollywood actor. He's a very active model.

CS: How about Taisho?

KS: (Laughs) I honestly have no idea. I don't even know where he's getting money and where exactly the money is going.

CS: He's doing a lot though, opening up a second store and all

KS: Taisho's a pretty ambitious guy. He might be borrowing money to keep his business going, but I'm not sure where he's borrowing from. It's very suspicious.

CS: Will Taisho ever go outside Japan in the manga?

KS: There may definitely be a day when Taisho goes overseas. He is

Interview with Kenji Sonishi

With great luck, we were able to snag a phone interview with Neko Ramen creator, Kenji Sonishi Sensei! He was a very easy going guy with lots of fun and interesting things to say about the manga, cats, ramen and more!

About Neko Ramen

Cindy Suzuki: How did you come up with the idea for Taisho?

Kenji Sonishi: I was eating at a local ramen shop that I frequent and came up with the idea. I've always thought the guys working at these ramen places were funny and interesting. They are so particular about the taste and basically put their all into its creation, and I wanted to write something based on this observation. I was actually first thinking of making Taisho a real person and not a cat.

CS: Why did you choose a cat as your main character?

KS: In a short story I've done in the past called Wan-Nyan Friends, there is a cat that looks very similar to Taisho. It's a story where the dog gets bullied. I picked up Taisho's character from that story. It worked better with a cat than it did with a real person.

CS: What do you like most about Taisho?

KS: I love how he never gives up and easily bounces back. He just keeps moving forward, and although he feels down sometimes, he never stays upset for too long.

CS: Why does Tanaka-san keep coming back for the bad ramen?

KS: Tanaka-san is genuinely concerned about Taisho and can't leave him alone. He's a good person and wonders if Taisho's doing all right.

CS: Are you like that as well?

KS: You know, I think I am.

CS: What did you do with your cat when you returned to Japan?

KS: Up until now, I've always had male cats. Every male cat I've had eventually wanders out on its own and never comes back. They're independent creatures, only coming home for food. In the end, they just take off. Maybe one of them started a ramen shop somewhere.

CS: What's the name of your current cat?

KS: Her name is Keshi-chan.

CS: What do you like most about your job?

KS: I love seeing people laughing and enjoying my manga. It makes me very happy

CS: Least favorite part of the job? Would it be deadlines?

KS: I never miss a deadline. But my job gets difficult when I start running out of time. I submit over 80 pages a month, eight of those being Neko Ramen I'm not complaining though.

CS: Is it hard thinking of new material for **Neko Ramen**?

KS: **Neko Ramen** is fun. I enjoy thinking of silly menus and new characters. Anything goes with this manga.

CS: What is your favorite manga or anime?

KS: I really enjoy Dilbert They don't have Dilbert in Japan so the only book I have is one that I bought overseas when I went on vacation. I also enjoy the style of work done by Hisaichi Ishii Sensei, especially the yon-koma manga.

CS: Any last comments to your fans?

KS: Taisho is always trying his best with whatever he does, and I hope you'll continue to support him. Also, if you come to Japan, please stop by the local ramen shops You'll see the many unique and interesting ramen workers with the same type of passion as Taisho.

A very special thank you to Kenji Sonishi Sensei! What a fun interview!

For more information on Neko Ramen, visit www.neko-ramen.com.

thinking about it...and will probably end up causing a ruckus.

About Kenji Sonishi

CS: Where are you from?

KS: I was born in Sapporo, Hokkaido, and I live here now as well. When I was about four years old, I lived in the U.S. (New Jersey) and stayed there for six years.

CS: What is your favorite ramen flavor? Favorite topping?

KS: Salt flavor with butter and corn.

CS: Do you make ramen at home?

KS: Yes, I do.

CS: Any tips to make delicious ramen at home?

KS: I find that it's really difficult to mess up ramen if it's instant.

CS: What do you think ramen means to the people of Japan?

KS: It's our soul food.

CS: What do you think of people who use forks to eat ramen?

KS: It's not so bad although it's much more authentic and more enjoyable with hashi (chopsticks) because it brings out the "I'm eating ramen!" feeling.

CS: Do you prefer Ramen or Curry?

KS: (Laughs) Unfortunately, I like curry. Taisho also enjoys curry more. If you ask most Japanese people, they can't eat three straight meals of ramen but three meals of curry is definitely possible.

CS: How do you like your curry?

KS: Medium-spicy. I really enjoy Katsu Curry.

Note: Katsu = Pork Cutlet

CS: Do you have a pet? In particular, a cat?

KS: Yes, I have a cat. There was never really a time period I didn't have one. I had a cat when I lived in the States as well.

Watch Taisho interact with customers!

Don't forget to ask for a glass of water...

Discover tasty ramen recipes...

and some of Taisho's secret toppings, too!

Tasty Ramen Recipes!

Easy-to-make ramen with Shoyu Stock (serves 2)

...ramen noodles (for two)
...ove, finely chopped
...oil
...soup base
...dashi stock
...tbsp sugar)

...the facts
1. Heat the sesame oil in a deep pan.
2. Saute the garlic and lower the heat
3. Add the kombu dashi stock and boil
4. Add the sugar, salt soba and soy sauce
5. Use a strainer to take out the pieces of garlic before
6. pouring into the bowls

For the Ramen Veggie
1. Boil the ramen as per the instructions. Once boiled put the ramen in the bowl
2. Blanche the vegetables in the boiling water for two ...ones depending how crunchy you wa...

What's in the Neko Ramen Good's Shop?

Look for a Taisho papercraft pattern!

Keep checking back at neko-ramen.com for updated comic strips, contests, videos and more.

www.neko-ramen.com

Neko Ramen 猫ラーメン Website!

If you haven't already, be sure to check out our awesome Neko Ramen website. It's a cute, funny interactive site where you can experience ordering ramen from Taisho himself! There are also a lot of random surprises and quirks so get ready to click your way into the virtual world of Taisho, Tanaka-san, Mii-chan and more!

www.neko-ramen.com

Look right! 右をみる

左をみる Look left!

Explore Taisho's Ramen Shop!

ramen hair guard!

Let your hair down!

Poll Ramen with a FORK & KNIFE?!
Do you eat Ramen with CHOPSTICKS or a FORK a
- Chopsticks (おはし)
- Fork & Knife (フォーク&ナイフ)
- Other (その他)

Only registered members can vote

Poll Attention Cat Lovers!
Would you rather eat turkey or ramen this Th
- Turkey (ターキー)
- Ramen (ラーメン)
- Other (その他)

Only registered members can vote

ramen spork?!

Practical thinking

cats on sushi?

Cute! Delicious!

Poll Meow Meow~
Your favorite cat is...??
- Hello Kitty
- Kyo (Fruits Basket)
- Garfield
- Luna (Sailor Moon)
- Cheshire Cat
- Doraemon
- Keyboard Cat (the YouTube Phenom)
- Kuroneko-sama
- Senryo-kun (Zona-00)

fan attachment for chopsticks???

For "chilled" noodles!

See more at:

www.neko-ramen.com

and click on "About"!

Random Ramen (and Cat) Sightings

The Teaser Campaign

If you subscribe to our weekly newsletter, you might have noticed the splashes of random ramen and cat moments. We just wanted to have some fun but didn't really know how it would be received.

Turns out, you all LOVE ramen and cats! We'd like to take this time to thank you for enthusiastically participating in our cat polls and ramen contests! It was great to see all of you rush to comment on your favorite cat and vote on whether or not you would use the ramen spork. We hope you enjoyed it as well. And for those that don't subscribe, here's what you may have missed.

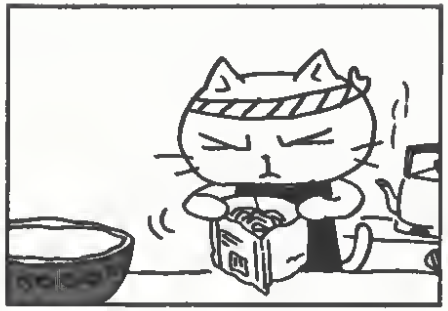
A Note From The Adapters

Hi Neko Ramen Fans!

This is Emily Gordon and Kumail Nanjiani, and we did the English adaptation for Neko Ramen, Order Up! We're married and worked on this project together. Emily is a therapist-turned-writer who writes for the website Lemondrop, her own blog Gynomite! and has also written for Jane and Bust magazines. Kumail is a comedian who writes and performs on Comedy Central's Michael and Michael Have Issues and just recently appeared on The Late Show with David Letterman. Both of us had fun adjusting to the humor of manga, which relies much more on people's reactions and visual humor than American comedy does

We are fascinated with manga, enjoy eating ramen and are obsessed with our own cat Bagel, so working on this project seemed like a perfect fit. We were totally sucked in to Neko Ramen's world and can't wait to find out more about Taisho's adorable father, his long-lost girlfriend and all of his ridiculous ideas to improve business. We're definitely hoping he moves into the world of social networking sites for the next volume. We would eat at his ramen stand anytime, but we'd probably end up telling him how cute he is which would really irritate him. That's the best thing about Neko Ramen--his complete ignorance of the fact that he's a cat. We like thinking about Bagel like that too, that she constantly wonders why people are cooing over her when she plays with a toy or falls asleep with all four feet in the air. She's just doing her job, you know?

~Emily Gordon and Kumail Nanjiani



A Note From The Editor

Fans of Neko Ramen,

Thank you so much for purchasing the first volume. It was quite a gamble when we decided to put the majority of the manga on our website, but here you are with the actual book in your hands. What a true fan! To show a small part of our huge appreciation, I'd like to give you a freebie lesson on how to read the word RAMEN in Japanese!

I'm sure you noticed we didn't retouch the ramen shop signs throughout the manga so you probably already recognize it:

The first character ラ is pronounced RA. The hyphen you see behind ラ extends the RA-sound (literally pronounced RAW). The next two characters メン are pronounced together as MEN. Broken apart, メ sounds like MEH, and the final character ン makes the N-sound.

Easy, right? Now you will be able to spot all the ramen shops throughout Japan. Look what you accomplished!

My mother taught me how to read and write Japanese at age three. It's one of the many great gifts she's given me, and I'm glad I got to share a tiny bit of that with you. Today is actually my dear mama-san's birthday so I hope you don't mind if I take this time to say, "Thanks for all the ramen and Japanese lessons! Happy birthday!"

And once again, thank you, Neko Ramen fans. Your passion for ramen and cats fueled this manga! See you in the next volume!

Cindy Suzuki, Editor

www.neko-ramen.com